

ENIGMAS

THE JOURNAL OF STRANGE PHENOMENA INVESTIGATIONS

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FEBRUARY-MARCH 1996



**EDITOR MALCOLM ROBINSON
41 THE BRAES TULLIBODY
CLACKMANNANSHIRE
SCOTLAND FK10 2TT**



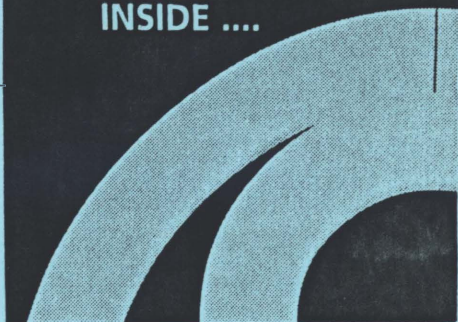
**STRANGE
PHENOMENA
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EDITOR: Malcolm Robinson,
41 The Braes, Tullibody,
Clackmannanshire, FK10 2TT,
SCOTLAND.
Telephone: 01259 724033

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The purpose of Strange Phenomena Investigations as an organisation, is defined clearly by its title: to investigate strange phenomena in its many categories. Such categories include reported hauntings, i.e. apparitions, poltergeist events; UFO sightings and various forms of psychic happenings. SPI was formed in 1979. Involvement in SPI is more than academic beyond the appeal as a study. We are drawn to it because we share the mutual opinion that the subject demands investigation and definite awareness on as wide a scale as possible, which will help to establish a firmer foundation that: "There are such things".

The aims of SPI are collected, researched and published accounts relating to most aspects of Strange Phenomena, and to inform the general public that there is, indeed, a case to be answered.

SPI does not hold or express any strict viewpoint as to the nature of the events of which we research; we keep an open mind and hope that by continued research we may come up with some answers to account for what at present eludes us.

Information regarding SPI can be obtained by writing to the secretary: Billy Devlin 96 Sheriffs Park, Linlithgow West Lothian EH49 7SS

ENIGMAS FEB-MARCH 1996.

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EDITORIAL.



Well here we are again, another year and another 12 months of that insatiable thirst for knowledge. For any research group, each new year heralds a year of challenge, a year of paranormal pursuit in the great hope that perhaps somewhere along the line, lessons will be learned, answers may be brought to the fore-front. But what I feel is more important than any of those burning issues, is our own compassion for our fellow human beings. Being a Spiritualist, I am well aware of the brotherhood of man and the love we all should have for our fellow men/women and all of God's creatures. But of course we are all still but human with our own frailties and misshapen and sometimes misguided view of things. I know that I'm not so perfect and I have made many mistakes throughout my life (and said and written things I regret). But I feel that if we can all learn from our mistakes then life should be all the more better for it. [It's O.K. readers, I've not put on a turquoise robe and started following the teachings of David Icke, although some of what he has to say is quite relevant to humanity].

No, I'm in this Spiritual frame of mind right now, and would like to get into print the message of how important it is to love and understand our fellow man. We are all individuals, we all have failings, but if we can learn from our failings and choose a direction in life, then we are on the road to enlightenment. Let us learn to understand one another, and to understand and accept other customs, other practices. War is undoubtedly a terrible thing, and the deep and ugly scar of war is a thing that needs to be eliminated. But until we learn to recognise our failings, our imperfections, and work on them, will we ever begin to sow the seeds of harmony, the seeds of a better life. Let us in this year of 1996 pray for lasting peace in Bosnia, and lasting peace to where ever men of ignorance spray their evil hatred. A society based on violence, is a cancer we can do without. So let us spare a thought for those individuals who have lost loved ones from any war torn arena, and let us hope that mankind will wake up to the reality that love is a much easier and kinder emotion than hate before it really is too late !

O.K. moving on to other things. 1995 was SPI's most successful year since we started way back in 1979. Our membership increased ten fold and we had many subscribers to ENIGMAS from many parts of the world, (including Papua New Guinea) who says publicity doesn't work ! And although ENIGMAS isn't a major glossy magazine, we are nonetheless recognised the world over. Our thanks go to SPI member Dean Ladds from Brankumhall East Kilbride for getting SPI recognised on the Internet.

1995 also saw SPI start up our guest speaker evenings, (granted a bit late in the year !), these we aim to continue through 1996. SPI's press, radio and television work, was also up on 1994, and through this more and more people are learning about us and becoming members. Publicity certainly pays off, for if you don't have it, who knows about you ! UFO sightings in Scotland still seem to be on the increase, and through other dedicated UFOlogists such as Ron Halliday, John Jenkins, Graham Beedie, George Niedzwiedz, and recently David Colman, we are beginning to learn more and more about UFOs in

Scotland. Although Scottish UFOlogy will have its bumps and bangs, its arguments and fall outs, these can and will be smoothed over to let all Scottish UFOlogists work towards the same common goal, that of solving the UFO mystery. And I'm quite sure, that 1996, will be a stepping stone in the right direction of Scottish UFOlogy.

In the past, Scotland sadly suffered through a lack of dedicated UFO researchers, thankfully nowadays we are beginning to see more and more people take an active interest. SPI would like to wish David Colman and his newly formed society Lothian Unexplained Phenomena Research, all the very best in their own pursuit of the weird and the wonderful. You know, although I give my heart to UFO research, my main and burning enthusiasm is "not" for UFOs, but for all things spiritual, or, in other words, "things that go bump in the night". Paranormal research for me, is more vigorating, more challenging than UFO research, (sacred blue, has your Editor went off his head I hear you ask !) Nope, but that's the honest truth folks. I'll always give UFOlogy my all of that there is no doubt, but if I was to choose, then it would have to be the paranormal.

Like I say, I'm glad that there are other UFO researchers out there. Scotland has recently seen a very unusual sheep mutilation case which is under the good Investigation of David Colman. When all is said and done, SPI can't research every single case "out there" because there just isn't enough hours in the day, (mind you, there could be if I packed my job in !) No the simple reality is, we need other researchers in Scotland, for SPI can't be there all the time. We wish we could, but we can't, so group's like David's will ensure that this gap gets filled whereby ensuring that Scottish UFOlogy can be there to sift over the evidence, to rake through all avenues open to us to hopefully reach an acceptable solution. For far too long now SPI have been left to cover this vast land area, now we have others to take on board those cases that we just can't cover, and by golly it's about time too !

Readers may recall from issue 41 page 29 of ENIGMAS, about my visit to see a transfiguration medium who resides in Edinburgh. I mentioned that a full report would be featured in ENIGMAS at a later date. Well sad to say that as this transfiguration medium did not agree to be video filmed or any still film taken of his remarkable face changes, (and remember I saw it readers), SPI have reluctantly informed him that we would no longer take time out to visit him, (unless of course he agrees to the video camera being there). He is still under Investigation by Ron Halliday, and hopefully Ron will provide a full report on his Investigations into this most fascinating man.

So in concluding my first Editorial of the year, I'll say this. Think positive, give everything your best shot. Show consideration to others, especially to those who are less fortunate than yourself. But ultimately realise that old adage, that "Life Is What You Make It" Let us hope that 1996 heralds the birth of world changes, and if we all start with ourselves, then who knows what the dawn will bring.

Malcolm Robinson, January 1996.

● THE FALKIRK UFO EVENT

BRITAIN'S FIRST UFO CONFERENCE
OF 1996, BETWEEN QUEST INTERN-
NATIONAL AND SPI AT THE FALKIRK
TOWN HALL, JANUARY 6th 1996.

Cor Blimey, they don't come any better than this for the 500 plus crowd that were there, the Falkirk UFO Conference organised by UFO MAGAZINE was superb. This was UFOlogy at the sharp end, no fuzzy lights here, just pure Area 51, Abductions, Animal Mutilations, Government Cover Ups, you name it and it was being discussed here. Superb stuff. Sad to say though, that this event did not draw the 700 plus crowds of the last two UFO conferences held at the Falkirk Town Hall, [June 1994 and October 1995] I would say that just over 500 people turned up for this one. Of course this could have been due to the fact that it was being held just after the New Year, and we Scots who are well known for our drinking ability, may have spent all our cash on a festive carry out leaving us with little money to carry on for Falkirk on January 6th. Alternatively, Falkirk football club were at home to Glasgow Rangers which is always a big game in Falkirk. And finally, maybe the public after attending the Cosmic Agenda Lecture held at the Falkirk Town Hall last October where we were fed a diet of "hugging trees", decided enough was enough.

I'll tell you what though, for all those people who were not at this Falkirk Town Hall event, you missed a 'stormer' of a conference. For UFOlogical content this was surely the best held UFO event in Scotland. The Falkirk 94 UFO event was good, mainly due to the fact that also to be seen that day were Glasgow UFO rock group CE IV. But for pure E.T. flavoured content, this was it, it was all here, you name it and if it wasn't spoken about, well I'll eat my underwear !!

Local Councillor Billy Buchanan opened the proceedings, this time not dressed in his usual tuxedo, but in a smart blue jacket. Graham Birdsall Editor of Quest International's UFO MAGAZINE, then took the stage and spoke about Government Cover Ups and some major UFO sightings. He also spoke about released Government documents most of which were heavily blacked out. Sadly he had trouble getting his video player to work, but he did manage to show other video sequences which displayed amazing UFO footage.



BILLY BUCHANAN.



GRAHAM W. BIRDSALL

Graham went on to discuss further UFO cases some of which even I hadn't heard before. After Graham's talk there followed a break in which the audience ventured out into the large foyer where a whole range of UFO items were on sale. Books, videos, tapes, magazines, models, UFO jewelry, everything bar a pickled alien ! After the break it was time for yours truly to take the stage of which I began to wonder if I would ever do so ! For Graham Birdsall gave me a marvellous introduction which seemed to go on forever.

(Thanks Graham, comments like yours make UFOlogy for me all the more worthwhile). I proceeded to inform the audience that because I was being given an extra half hour to speak, I would use this time to introduce some new and rather interesting Scottish UFO cases. But I began by presenting that old, and some would say, tiresome UFO chesnut, The Livingston UFO Incident. Now I know that this case, more than any other Scottish UFO case has been poured over the UFO community for many years now. The only reason I presented it at Falkirk, was owing to the fact that many youngsters are coming into UFOlogy for the first time, and I'm sure that if they have not heard this old chesnut case before that they would find it of interest. But I do agree with others, perhaps its time to put that case to bed now. Should I continue to present this case at my lectures readers? Please write in and let me know. I then presented other UFO cases from Scotland and was really getting 'into them' when suddenly Graham Birdsall appeared from the wings and approached my podium and placed a letter down beside my notes. The letter read, "Malcolm, 3:55pm Sorry mate but you have to finish at 4:00pm, Graham".

Oops, Oh dear. Readers one of my main failings is once I get started talking on UFOs I really find it hard to stop, it's like walking over a cliff, there's no stopping you. And I was speaking so much and at great length about certain Scottish cases, that I over-ran my time which sadly did not leave me enough time to discuss those other new and exciting Scottish UFO cases. One thing for sure, I'll really need to get my act together and just give the bare bones of a case instead of discussing it at great length. A lesson learned there!

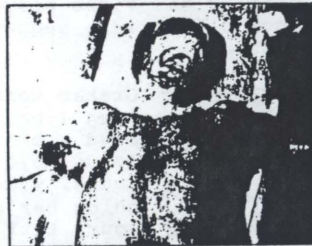


ANTHONY DODD

After my talk there was another break, after which Tony Dodd a retired police officer of 25 years standing, took the stage and absolutely blew us away with his presentation. To say his talk was mind blowing is an understatement of gigantic proportions. You just had to have been there to have heard this. Amongst other things, he spoke about being harassed by the C.I.A. when he was over in the States doing research work. He was threatened with his life by them. Even his wife was threatened.

Tony went on to speak about animal mutilations, sheep, cattle, deer, pigeons, and even would you believe, mice "Yes Mice" (!) each found with holes in their heads in which bodily organs were removed, clinically and precisely. In some cases these holes appeared to be cauterised by some incredible heat! Slides depicting these horrible cases were shown, including an incredible case of human mutilation, not a pritty sight, it even had me squirming in my seat. Tony stated that these slides "HAD" to be shown, and who would disagree. The public have to be educated on this matter.

Tony also spoke about a missing Naval Warship and the cover-up which ensued around it. Owing to space I can only feature some of what Tony spoke about (more's the pity). I've heard a lot of good UFO speakers in my time



MUTILATIONS DO NOT ALWAYS OCCUR TO ANIMALS AS THIS PHOTOGRAPH DEPICTS.

but Tony Dodd's presentation takes a lot of beating. After Tony's talk there was another break and an opportunity for visitors to the Town Hall (who incidentally came from all over. We had people from Wales, England, Scandinavia, and even America there) to talk shop. The usual contingent from the press were there [see press report featured here] but surprisingly no T.V. cameras. German Television Station A.R.D. were meant to be there but were held up, they are still coming to Scotland to film a piece about Scottish UFOlogy and a full report on their visit will be featured next issue. After the break there followed a question and answer session, in which Graham Birdsall, Tony Dodd and myself, took once more to the stage to answer the public's questions, (which could have went on all night).

So all in all then Falkirk 96 was a huge success purely because the public got what they wanted, ie, "Wall To Wall UFOs" and not "Hugging Trees" like the last Town Hall UFO event. If you were not at Falkirk 96, then you missed yourself, and I don't say that lightly. This was the sharp end of UFOlogy, and boy was I glad to be a part of it.

Ufo-ologists take in sights of Falkirk

WHEN more than 500 believers and sceptics gathered in Falkirk Town Hall yesterday for the launch of UFO Magazine's Scottish conference, the only strange lights were on Christmas trees at either side of the stage.

By Geraldine Murray

As the audience trickled in it became clear that, while there was a definite anorak contingent, the world of the unexplained now appears to be a younger, more fashionable crowd. The organisers, obviously already tuned in to the appropriate wavelength, exploited it with healthy sales of T-shirts and badges bearing the legend of the cult TV series, *The X-Files*. The truth is out there.

It was said that some people had travelled from America, Canada and Scandinavia, and that a German film crew was coming to film the event, but the truth of that proved elusive. The foreign factor had spread to the UFO-ologists themselves, whose attitude seemed to be that people out there could take them or leave them. Evidence, painstakingly gathered over the decades, was allowed to do much of the persuading and there was plenty of clear video footage to support the idea of close encounters of the weird kind.

By Geraldine Murray

Falkirk had been chosen because of the wave of reported sightings in the city over the past two years in the Bonnybridge area.

Malcolm Robison, head of the Scottish-based Strange Phenomena Investigations and editor of *Enigmas*, laughed when asked if he knew why. "We honestly haven't any idea why this area has been singled out for UFO activity."

Robison, describing himself as one of the intelligent sceptics, says that 95% of unidentified flying object 'sightings' can be traced to some other source, such as commercial aircraft or meteorological flares.

But the remaining 5% still

account for 300 unresolved incidents.

Billy Buchanan, Labour councillor for Bonnybridge, is sure that reports of UFOs are increasing because people are less inhibited about coming forward.

His own experiences in trying to give the subject serious consideration while trying to be taken seriously as an elected member of the local authority, have been difficult enough.

"Someone will phone for me and they'll say at the office, 'He's not here, he's away on an intergalactic mission'. I've got an open mind but I'm getting a bit fed up with being called a lunatic."

Buchanan is pleased that local people will benefit from the information available in the conference and make anyone who has seen a UFO less afraid about talking to others. "I only want to allay the fears of the people I represent," he said. "I want to be remembered for what I did for the community, not as the urban spaceman."

In the lobby two brothers examined the countless pictures of UFOs and alien life forms. One admitted that he was there out of curiosity and was uncertain about whether to believe in flying saucers. His brother remained distinctly unconvinced. "The only time I start seeing things is when I'm drunk."

Conference Report by the Editor.

For further SPI meetings and events, please see elsewhere in this issue. Be there or be square as the saying goes.

[Scotland On Sunday January 7th 1996]

**SPI Review of Falkirk Town Hall Public Meeting by UFO Magazine
Saturday 6th January 1996 reviewed by Billy Devlin**

Well folks I do'nt know about you, but my mouth is still hanging open at the thought of what was disclosed at this meeting. Not only did those present hear evidence that taken as a whole should worry and at the same time excite every man woman and child in the room, but we were presented with some of the most gruesome sights I've seen at a conference (no not you Malcolm!). Cattle mutilation and my God Human mutilations (no not you Malcolm!!). It was enough to make you lock the door and not venture out into the streets again. I certainly had one eye on the road and the other skyward as I drove home.

It was a momentous occasion for Scottish ufology, never before has so many distinguished members of the UFO fraternity agreed to speak in Scotland about a subject which more and more people up here are becoming aware of. The hall was slow to fill up at first, but I'm sure that this was due to the selection of UFO publications and memorabilia that was for sale at the front of the house, as well as a well stocked bar within easy reach. When it did fill, it was given to Councillor Billy Buchanan the honour of opening the proceedings, and quite right to. No man has done so much for the Bonnybridge, area in trying to find out what is going on, Scottish ufology owes a lot to this man.

After a short introductory film showing various UFO reports filmed around the world, Graham Birdsall was the first speaker. He delivered a mind blowing talk about everything you want to here, and more. The mysterious Machrihanish base. A film about a group of Ufologists visit to Area 51 that shows you what the American military interpretation of "land of the free" is. He even had footage of pinky and perky discussing a UFO caught on video seemingly changing shape and fly across the screen at an incredibly speed as we watched. Well it sounded like them, and it looked like it but, unfortunately, we could not see the whole video as there was some technical problem which made the picture fast forwards instead of play. It was a sad miss not seeing this video as I am aware of some who actually came just to see it. I'm sure their disappointment was eased when Mr Birdsall told us all to watch out for the Massive body heading towards earth. Hale-Bopp is the comets name and its so big that some folk in the know say it has an atmosphere. Whatever it is Graham told us to watch closely, as it may not be what it seems! (a Massive UFO?). By the way we will be able to see it with the naked eye around about February 1997!

I do'n't know about you folk that were there, but I needed a break after that. And one came along. Exit to the bar and calm my nerves.

After the break it was...ehl...what's his name?... Robinson...George Robinson...No of course Malcolm Robinson, Scotlands own, and editor of this fine publication. No matter how often I hear the story of Gary Wood and Colin Wright there is always something new I hear that amazes me. What these two guys went through must have been the most frightening thing imaginable, and it takes great courage to come out and talk about it. Malcolm gave a very powerful description of what happened, only to be cut off in his prime before he could get into the Bonnybridge affair in any depth. There is so much happening in the Scotland area these days that you could fill the day on it alone. Maybe you'll have to talk faster next time Malcolm!

If you ever wonder what dangers an investigator put himself up against then go no further than listen to the tales Tony Dodd had to say. After describing, in great detail, an event which took place near the North Pole, concerning American, Russian and British war ships and no less than four UFOs, my knees nearly buckled. What the hell is going on? He had been receiving information from an 'internal' source telling him what was happening. Ships closing off areas at sea, ships going missing, and Russian ships being heard to report 'engaging craft'.

As if that wasn't enough, both he and his wife were taken aside by CIA agents and physically threatened if they continued to talk about the subject. He did talk about it again and again he has been threatened.

It put the job of filling in sightings forms and interviewing witnesses into perspective. Here was a man willing to put his life at risk to get to the truth. And he is an ex chief inspector of police! Christ what next!

Cattle mutilation. and if that's not bad enough, human mutilation. We are talking here about brains and spinal columns being pulled out of a body through a small hole in the head. We are talking about various parts of the body being extracted using some sort of high intense heat. No blood, no struggle. Just a carcass with its internals missing, and it's happening worldwide to all sizes of animal...Why? and what the hell can we do to stop it?

I had an incredible day at this event. I left feeling that we might be coming closer to finding out what it is all about. I felt that what we do as investigators is paying off and is worthwhile. People are beginning to look at us and are just beginning to think that maybe there is some truth in what these guys think. Even if only half of what the speakers say is true, then there is something worth investigating out there.

Reviewed By Billy Devlin.

ENIGMAS FEB-MARCH 1996.

A GHOST IN THE GALLEY



OLD HAUNT... Ghostbusters Malcolm Robinson and Billy Devlin film chef David Tracey. Picture: LES GALLAGHER

Food For Thought For Scottish Restaurant

Psychic Investigators Malcolm Robinson and Billy Devlin were called to a restaurant in Kirkintilloch, Scotland, recently following a series of claims by staff of a ghostly presence in the kitchen.



Malcolm Robinson

Over the past seven or eight years there has been a succession of strange occurrences at the Stables Restaurant - items would mysteriously move or disappear, lights switched on and off and gas rings turned up and down - all with no apparent reason.

Peter Etherson, general manager of the Stables, explains: "The restaurant was converted from a derelict stables about 15 years ago. There has always been an eerie feel about the place - as if someone else is there."

"Then in about 1988 it was extended and a conservatory added and that's when things really started to happen."

He gives an example: "During the May bank holiday this year a fire broke out in the kitchen, causing

extensive damage. Two pieces of kitchen equipment could not be found but within two weeks of the kitchen being refurbished the missing items mysteriously reappeared.

"All the activity seems to centre on the kitchen area, but it all seems quite friendly - nothing sinister has ever happened," he adds.

Malcolm and Billy of Strange Phenomena Investigations were called in following a suggestion by a local newspaper journalist who had been to the restaurant to cover the story. The pair had been working at Bonnybridge in Scotland investigating reports of UFO sightings.

Malcolm Robinson explains, "We were invited to the restaurant to carry out initial investigations into the claims. Naturally, because of the nature of its business we had to be sceptical and ask ourselves if the restaurant could be using the story to increase trade."

He continues, however: "After listening to the various testimonies of the staff we were convinced that there was definitely a case to be answered and the accounts all seemed to point to there being a Spirit energy there."

One clue to the mystery has already been uncovered. The building backs onto a canal and many years ago was used as a hostelry for bargemen and their horses. Rumour has it that a young stable girl was murdered there - a story which has been verified by two local people.

Malcolm and Billy are now waiting to hear from management at The Stables to arrange for a medium to visit the restaurant.

"We always work with a psychic medium in cases such as this. If there is a lost Spirit then the medium will help its transition into the Spirit World," adds Malcolm.

The case featured left, was one in which SPI were asked to become involved with. It featured all the usual elements of ghostly manifestations but in saying that, these events were not overly recurrent, and were few and far between. Billy Devlin and I took statements from some of the staff at the Stables Inn and also its manager, we were then informed that they would very much like SPI to become further involved, and perhaps rid the establishment of its ghostly presences.

The manager informed SPI that he would be back in touch with us to give us a date of which we could return, but at the time of writing this piece (January 1996) SPI have not been contacted, and we await on further developments. Should we hear further and an Investigation is put underway, then a report of that Investigation will be featured here, so stay tuned folks.

NOW THE VIDEO - 'VISITORS FROM THE OTHER SIDE'

To complement his book about the MINNIE HARRISON Home Circle - 'Visits by Our Friends from the Other Side', her son Tom Harrison now talks about those remarkable experiences in Middlesbrough from 1946 to 1954.

This 60 minute VHS video includes excerpts from some of his talks in 1994; recently filmed interviews with other Circle members from those days - together with photographs of ectoplasm and fully materialised Spirit people, taken in 1947/48.

Available from:

SNIPP, 48 MILL RISE, SWANLAND, HU14 3PW

£9.95.....(plus p&p in UK. £1.50)

Cheques payable to 'Tom Harrison Cancer Account' which is dedicated to helping smaller Cancer care and Support Groups and needy individual sufferers.

The book is also available from the same address.....

£5.50 (incl. p&p)

Strange lights in the sky are a mystery say worried couple

SPI's SHIELDHILL UFO CASE.
NOVEMBER 1995.
REPORT BY THE EDITOR.

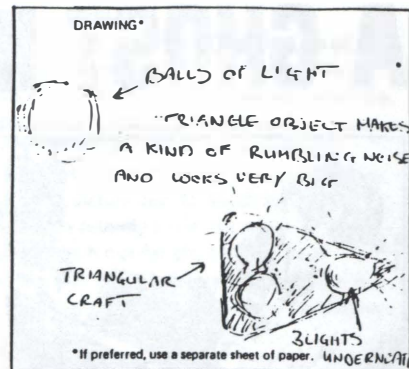
INTRODUCTION.

All UFOlogists know that around 95% of all UFO reports have natural explanations, from Aircraft, birds, wind debris, astronomical bodies, etc etc. And any working UFOlogist knows that in the vast majority of his UFO case research work, nearly nine out of ten cases turn out to be I.F.O.'s (Identified Flying Objects). Some cases on the surface appear sensational, and some even have the added bonus of video footage to support their claims. This was the case in an SPI Investigation during October 1995 when I received a telephone call from Councillor Billy Buchanan who informed me of a couple from the village of Shieldhill near Bonnybridge who apparently had been witnessing strange lights in the sky, some of which they had captured on video. I was further informed that a copy of the video had been sent down to QUEST INTERNATIONAL'S Tony Dodd. I quickly got on the phone to Tony and asked him what he thought of the video. Tony replied that he was convinced that it was genuine UFO activity, this view was also echoed by Councillor Buchanan who had also viewed the film. At this point I hadn't seen the video but had phoned the witness to arrange a suitable date to interview both him and his wife.

THE UFO SIGHTING.

The day arrived, and both Billy Devlin and I travelled over to Shieldhill. Shieldhill is situated on top of some rolling hills, and there is quite a bit of farmland and fields situated all around the village. Also attending at the witnesses home, was UFO abductee Garry Wood. After exchanging some conversation with the family, it was time to settle down and watch what they had captured on cam-corder. But first let me tell you in the witnesses own words, exactly what he claimed to have seen on the night in question. From the witness statement I take the following.

"On Saturday 21st October 1995 whilst getting up to the toilet, at approximately 05:00am in the morning. I looked out of the bedroom window to see what the weather was like. To my utter astonishment there was two flashing lights in the sky. I quickly woke my wife and shouted 'Susan' quick, look at this. To which she replied, 'Oh my God, what is it'? We went downstairs and opened the back door. The sky was very clear, by now the objects were far away. We stood out the back and watched them for around an hour and a half. The reason we found the objects so peculiar, was because they made no sound whatsoever, and they moved very peculiar and astoundingly fast. We decided to keep looking for these objects every night, and on Tuesday the 24th conditions outside were very windy, but as soon as it got dark we started to observe these objects flying about again.



"We also observed 5 intermittent blue flashes in the sky like lightning and the sky was lighting up. There was about 10 to 15 minutes inbetween flashes, but on the 5th flash the lights went out and there was a power cut over most of Shieldhill. I could have put this down to lightning, but we were still observing these objects at the time. On the following day, Wednesday 25th October 1995, I borrowed a video camera and set it up on a tripod stand at the back door at around 6:00pm. I started filming and filmed 40 minutes of video. The BBC pylons which can be seen at the back of our house seemed to have some kind of significance, though what I do not know. These objects made no sound whatsoever. On the Tuesday (24th) a large triangular craft with lights underneath passed over our house making no sound at all. We phoned the M.O.D and the R.A.F. and were told that there was nothing in the area. Also two police officers witnessed these objects, P.C. Morris McKenna and P.C. Mitchell from Maddiston Police Station on Sunday 29th October from our house, went into the field with search lights. We were told that they did not know what these objects were, but if they came closer to our house not to hesitate and phone them. Since these sightings, my wife and I have been contacted by other people through various sources who have had similar or "worse" experiences and who are too frightened to come forward for fear of being laughed at or ridiculed."

THE UFO VIDEO.

Now readers at this point I would ask you to remember the fact that I have been in UFOlogy now for a good number of years, and in that time I have seen around a dozen or so alleged UFO videos. The majority of which I have not been overly impressed with. So it's not a case of me just viewing the odd video, nearly every alleged UFO video that I've seen all look pretty much the same, ie, a static ball of light in a dark night sky of which I'm convinced are bright stars or planets. Now, the people that are taking these UFO videos, are not doing it for the best of their health, they honestly believe that they are filming something strange. I have never (as yet) come across anyone who has openly tried to deceive me by filming natural airborne objects and passing them off as UFOs. And this family were very honest and sincere people.

Anyway, both Billy, Garry and myself sat down to watch the video and it soon became apparent, that what "I" was viewing was purley aircraft. There was one particular sequence in which flashing pulsating lights were observed, but I'll come back to that in a moment. Upon completion of watching the video, we then proceeded to ask both witnesses various questions in regards to their sighting and asked them both to complete the standard UFO sighting account form, plus a BUFORA Photographic Questionnaire form, all of which they agreed to do. They did however specify that they wanted no publicity, which of course was adhered to (hence the pseudonyms used in this article).

The couple then asked my thoughts about the video and I said that it was too early to give them a firm definitive answer, but it looked like an aircraft to me, but I could be wrong and I would need to check to be sure. Now, on one particular sequence of the video, [when the camcorder is on full zoom] a strange bat like shape of this light can easily be seen. The photograph featured here, is not of the Shieldhill UFO, but of an object filmed over the English Town of Norfolk by another camcorder enthusiast (November 3rd 1995). Apparently Great Yarmouth police received several calls that evening from people claiming they had seen a very similar object traversing the night sky.

GOLDEN HED FILMED OVER NORFOLK



Now as all good UFO Investigators know, or indeed anyone who has worked with camcorders this effect (THIS BAT LIKE EFFECT), is purely the result of the camcorder lens and its focus on infinity. So anyone upon looking at a video with this strange bat like shape should not be fooled. It's not a strange UFO shape, it's only bad focus. I would urge

anyone with a video camera to try and focus on a bright white light, and if you look closely, you'll find that you have captured the same result. At this point I asked Danny if he could show me the area in which he had taken his camcorder film of these strange lights, whereupon Garry, Billy, Danny along with his wife, and myself, all stepped out into his back garden. Now to let you understand, Danny's back garden faces onto fields and it has a commanding and panoramic view of the sky with no bright street lights to obscure one's vision

YOU MUST BE JOKING !

As we all stood outside gazing into the night sky, a rumbling sound was heard coming from the sky but at a distance. Upon hearing this sound, Danny immediately said, "that's it, that's the sound I hear before I see these UFOs". A few seconds later, a large commercial passenger airliner flew across Danny's roof (at a good height) with its navigational lights flashing on and off. "See, see, there it is, that's a UFO" said Danny excitedly. At this, both Billy Devlin and I looked at each other in acute embarrassment. I then said to Danny, "That's an aircraft" to which he replied, "Are you sure" ? A few minutes later, Danny pointed onto the horizon in which a small bright white light was flying slowly across the sky. "There's one, there's one" Danny quickly butted in. I again stated that this was yet another aircraft, probably on route to Cumbernauld Airport. (Readers, this was as much an embarrassment to me at having to tell the chap that it was aircraft than him telling me that he thought it was UFOs).

THOSE PULSATING LIGHTS.

Danny then said, O.K. what about the strange lights I saw which were pulsating and were sitting just above that hill with bushes over there ? Danny was pointing to his left which in the distance, across some fields, lay a hedgerow with some bushes. After some due on site consideration, it was my considered opinion, that what it could possibly be, was that behind this hedgerow lay a road, and I felt that it could quite easily have been a car which had stopped at the side of the road, (for what ever reason) and left it's indicator lights flashing to warn other motorists that it was there. When a witness is excited, he or she will normally misconstrue ordinary mundane objects as UFOs, particularly if they claim to be witnessing many over a certain period of time. Now from the witnesses vantage point, this hill with hedgerow is on an incline, and so he is not looking directly straight at it. It is on a gently sloping hill. I didn't think that the witness was too pleased at my prosaic explanation, but what else is one to do in this situation, tell lies !!

NO JOY WITH MADDISTON POLICE.

After several more minutes skywatching, both Billy and I decided to call it a night, and after some small conversation we said our goodbyes and informed the couple that we would look into their sighting. To complete the night, both Billy and I headed off to the Maddiston Police Station (which also serves Shieldhill) where we hoped we could interview police constables McKenna and Mitchell, sadly though both men were not available (We had wanted to interview them in connection with their attendance at the witnesses home. We wanted their views, their thoughts). We did however speak with a woman police constable of whom we informed her why we wanted to speak to these officers, and also to inform her to let SPI know of any similar UFO sightings in this area. This she said, she would gladly do. She had heard about the Shieldhill UFO video and various police officers had been discussing it at the station. This woman police constable then informed both Billy and I, that she would speak to the officers concerned, and get them to contact us with their statements. Thanking her for her time, we left the premises.

After hearing nothing for a few weeks, I repeatedly phoned the Maddiston Police Station where I was continually promised/fobbed off, that these officers would be in touch.

After repeated attempts by me to try and reach these officers, I gave up. Now although I am totally convinced that what this video shows is aircraft, (and SPI research uncovered this through Edinburgh Airport, they said that an aircraft "was" in the vicinity at the stated time) let us not forget the fact that "true UFOs" have still been sighted in this area, and remember too, that Shieldhill lies fairly close to Bonnybridge the scene of a lot more UFO reports. I am also led to believe through fellow researcher David Colman, that Investigations undertaken by him, have shown instances of other UFO cases coming from the Shieldhill area, so clearly something is still going on. But in this particular case, both Billy Devlin and I feel, with our own deductions and that of Edinburgh Airport, that this case is the result of aircraft. But the most damning of all certainties, was the sequence when we were out in Danny's back garden when he spotted an aircraft fly over his house to which he said was a UFO. We were there, we heard this other people were not !

Cases like this though, are part of a learning process, in which Investigators come to realise through their involvement with similar cases, that the majority of them do indeed turn out to be I.F.O.s. We learn to detect, to see, to listen, and ultimately to reach an acceptable solution to a given UFO sighting. The Shieldhill UFO is a case of mistaken identity, viewed honestly, but mistakingly, and is therefore closed.

Report by the Editor.

Polbeth man films strange orange disc



BRIAN CURRAN WITH UFO CAUGHT ON VIDEO.

Keeping on the subject of UFOs caught on video. On November the 5th 1995 Polbeth man Brian Curran (pictured here) who was in his garden, shouted to his wife Shirely to come and look at a strange object that he was viewing in the sky. Shirely grabbed a camcorder and managed to shoot around 20 seconds of video film. In an interview with the local press, Brian had this to say. "I have never seen anything like it, as soon as I saw it I knew there was something strange about it. It was so bright and was glowing orange. The object hung in the sky looking like the sun in darkness". Brian went on to say that it appeared to have pieces cut out around the edges, like bites out of an apple. The colours switched between orange and brown in these areas before the object disappeared into a small dot.

According to this press report, the couple witnessed the object for around one minute, viewing it from Polbeth towards Bathgate (West Lothian). A spokesman for the Civil Aviation Authority's Air Traffic Control at Edinburgh Airport, said there had been no unusual sightings on their radar that night, these would normally be dealt with by the Ministry of Defence, said the spokesman. However a spokesman for the MoD said, "People think we are interested in UFOs and run a special department to deal with them, we don't, we are only interested in terrestrial invasion".

So once again we have a strange light caught on camera. The one pictured here has segments cut out of it, similar it must be said, to the Norfolk and Shieldhill videos. The Shieldhill video was taken on the 25th of October. The Norfolk video was taken on the 3rd of November, and the Polbeth video was taken on the 5th of November (HMMMM).

MAGAZINE REVIEW.

*Space · Poltergeist · Lost Worlds · UFOs · Fortean · Ghosts
Monsters · Earth Mysteries · Ancient Astronauts · ESP*



SOUTHAMPTON UFO GROUP NEWSLETTER, (A4). Editor Steve Gerrard with yet another mixture of UFO reports, press reports, and general information about the UFO phenomena. Very Informative. Subscriptions are, (UK) £5:00 per year. Write to, Steve Gerrard, 25 Weston Grove Road, Woolston, Southampton, England, SO19 9EE.

THE CROP WATCHER, No 25 SPRING 1995, (A4). From the word processor of Paul Fuller comes the Crop Watcher, which this time round looks at the 1st International Crop Circle Conference. Also, Ambrose Bierce (who!) did he know about Crop Circles in 1893? There is an Alien Energy debate, and a nasty attack on BUFORA for supporting the Roswell Alien autopsy film, (A bit near the bone me-thinks Paul). Subs are, (UK) £1:50 single issue. £6:00 per year. (Overseas) £10:00. Cheques made payable to, Paul Fuller, 3 Selbourne Court, Tavistock Close, Romsey, Hampshire, England, SO51 7TY.

FORTEAN TIMES No 82 (A4). Britain's leading paranormal/UFO mag which has articles on, The Truth Behind The X Files, Shrinking Penises, (I'm O.K. in that department), The Roswell Alien Autopsy Film, (and why not!), Lake Monsters, and much more. It also includes an article by Jenny Randles about UFO flaps of which Bonnybridge is given a mention. Some people think that I have fell out with Jenny over the Bonnybridge window area. Well I haven't. Jenny is still number 1 in my book, and you can take that to the bank, (crawl crawl). Subs are, (UK) £12:00 per year, £2:00 single issue, (EC) £15:00, (USA) \$30:00, (Rest of the world) £18:00. Cheques made payable to, John Brown Publishing, Freepost (SW6096), Frome, Somerset, England, BA11 17A. [You don't require a stamp if posting from the U.K. F.T. is also available from John Menzies and other leading newsagents.

UFO TIMES JUL/AUG 1995 (A4). The magazine of BUFORA, The British UFO Research Association. This issue has articles on Area 51, UFOs On The Internet, and a marvellous article by John and Anne Spencer on the bogus panic attack regarding the Orsan Wells radio broadcast in 1938 regarding the play, The War Of The Worlds. Apparently, no such panic ever took place!! For more information about BUFORA and this publication, write to, B.M. BUFORA, London, England, WC1N 3XX.

THE SCEPTIC Vol 9 No 3 (A4). From the 'non-believers' comes the Sceptic, a magazine devoted to the other side of the UFO & Paranormal fence, which is always good for a laugh. However, this issue see's a fairly good article by Martin Kottmeyer on the origins of "Earthly Alien Stereotypes" which is worth the cover price alone. Subs are, (UK) £1:85 single issue, £12:00 per year. (Rest Of The World) £15:00. Cheques payable to, The Sceptic, Dept B, P.O. Box 475, Manchester, England, M60 2TH.

UFO MAGAZINE JULY/AUGUST 1995 (A4). The magazine of Quest International who's Editor Graham Birdsall does a marvellous job of packing in loads of UFO information. This time round they have articles on, 20th Century Aliens, The Roswell Film, The Addingham UFO, Sheep Mutilations in the U.K. and much much more. A great read and a great lay-out. Subs are, (UK) £12 (USA) \$46:00, (Europe) £18:00. Cheques payable to Quest Publications International Ltd. Send to, UFO Magazine, subscriptions Dept, P.O. Box 2, Grassington, Skipton, North Yorkshire, England, YO23 5UY. UFO Magazine is also available from John Menzies and other leading newsagents, priced £1:75 single issue.

PARANORMAL INVESTIGATORS NEWSLETTER JUNE 1995 (A4). This is a 3 page A4 newsletter about paranormal events under the Editorship of Jon D. Inman, and is free. Fancy a copy? Well send a S.A.E. to, Jon D. Inman, Garden Flat, 32 Valley Road, Scarborough, England, YO11 2LU.

INTELLIGENCE JUNE 1995 (A4). From the British UFO Studies Centre comes Intelligence, one of the newer magazines to hit the UFO scene in the U.K. and boy does it do the subject proud. This is a lively mag under the Editorship of seasoned UFOlogist, Eric Morris. This issue has great articles on The Strange Case Of The Entity On Dartmoor, written by Eric himself. There is also an interesting case of a mysterious event in the Canary Isles. The magazine also looks at numerous UFO incidents. Yes a good mag this. Keep it up Eric. For more information on the British UFO Studies group and also this publication, write to, Eric Morris, 52 Dart Walk, Wharton, Winsford, Cheshire, England, CW7 3JE.

TRANS-UFO APRIL 1995 (A4). This is the first issue of a magazine which is solely devoted to Scandinavian UFOlogy transcribed into english by Eileen Fletcher. So if you want to keep abreast on what is happening in Scandinavia in regards to UFO sightings, then I'd get this one. Subs are, (UK) £3:38, (Europe) £3:78. (All other countries) £5:00. Cheques made payable to Eileen Fletcher, Derwent Cottage, Derwent Dam, Bamford, Sheffield, S30 2AQ, England.

PSYCHIC NEWS, (WEEKLY). This is a weekly newspaper devoted to Spiritualism, psychic healing, and strange events throughout the world. Sometimes UFOlogy can be found within it's pages. P.N. is available from any leading newsagents in the U.K. priced 30 pence, or you can order it from, P.N. 2 Tavistock Chambers, Bloomsbury Way, London, England, WC1A 2SE.

ANIMALS & MEN No 6 (A5). The Sgt Pepper mag of Cryptozology. A fine read on some of the world's rare and exotic animal species, including some of the more mysterious ones like, "Nessie" and "Ogopogo". Editor Jonathan Downes article on the Doctor and the Owlman is the pick of the bunch, but the best photo goes to the one featured on page 20 of a naked female Witch (Now how come I can't get away with that, any female Witches out there that wants there photo taken?). Subs are, (UK) £6:00 per year, £1:50 single issue. (USA) \$9:00 per year. Cheques payable to, A & J Downes, 15 Holne Court, Exwick, Exeter, Devonshire, England, EX4 2NA.

WORLD UFO JOURNAL SUMMER 1995 (A4). Good old Edward Harris with yet another issue of World UFO Journal. As usual it is jammed packed with interesting UFO items such as The Roswell Alien Film, UFO Propulsion Systems, UFO Press Cuttings, UFO sightings, and much more. Where would we be without this one? For subscription details, write to, Edward Harris, 16 Newton Green, Greater Dunmow, Essex, England, CM6 1DU.

STRANGE DAZE JULY 1995 (A5). I praised it last issue, and I praise it again. Good standard of UFO items from Editor Dave Newton of whom I had the pleasure to have met, if but briefly, at the recent BUFORA International UFO Congress in Sheffield. This issue has items on Roswell, The Mantel/Santilli interview (you just beat me to it Dave !) and how to go about achieving a successful Skywatch. Like ENIGMAS, STRANGE DAZE injects some light hearted humour throughout its pages, just to let the public know that we UFOlogists are not always serious 'fuddy duddies', (now there's a word !). Strange Daze comes highly recommended. Subs are, (UK) £1:00 per single issue, [issued 3 times a year]. Cheques payable to, Dave Newton, 9 Broderick Close, Kenton, Newcastle-upon-tyne, England, NE3 3SG.

MUFON UFO JOURNAL JUNE 1995 (A4). From the world's largest UFO group, (The Mutual UFO Network) comes their MUFON Journal which contains all the latest on American UFO research, including, you guessed it, more on the Roswell alien autopsy film, (never in the history of UFOlogy, has one particular subject captured so much intense debate). Subs are, (USA) \$25:00 per year, (Foreign) \$30:00 in U.S. funds only. Send to, MUFON UFO Journal, 103 Oldtowne Road, Seguin, Texas, 78155-4099, United States of America.

AURA Z, Vol 2 No 1. From Russia comes the nice "smelling" (!) Aura-Z. 98 pages of weird and wonderful phenomena, namely, Star Wars over Pyattgorsk, Light Effects and UFOs, Crop Circles, and a photograph with a typewriter stuck to his chest, (Biological attraction you know !). The best article in this issue, is that which concerns the poltergeist effects in the home of former Russian Cosmonaut Vladimir Aksyonov, incredible stuff. Subs are, (Europe) 50Fs/33USD. (Other Countries) 55Fs/36USD, to AURA-Z c/o Post International, Inc 44 Clerkenwell Road, London, EC1M 5PS, or, AURA-Z, c/o Post International Inc, 666 Fifth Avenue, Suite 572, New York, NY 10103, USA.

THE NOAH'S ARK SOCIETY NEWSLETTER JULY 1995 (A5). The NAS is a world wide educational society for the promotion, development, and safe practice of physical mediumship. This issue has articles on an extraordinary seance which includes transfiguration. An item on the Brothers Davenport, gifted psychics ! Plus the usual NAS Society business matters. Recommended. Subs are, (UK) 85 pence single issue, £15:00 per year. (Rest Of The World), £21:00 per year. Write to, Alf Winchester, The Noah's Ark Society, "Tree-tops", Hall Road, Cromer, Norfolk, England, NR27 9JQ.

DEAD OF NIGHT MAGAZINE APRIL 1995 (A4). Simply brilliant mag this which goes along the same lines as ENIGMAS. Articles include, African Witchcraft, The Turin Shroud, Is There A Monster In Lake Bala, UFO Reports, etc, its all here, and if it's not here, I'll eat my hat, (once I buy one first that is !). Best article though, is Editor Lee Walker's "Living A Boy's Adventure Tale". This concerns Lee's visit to Loch Ness back in August 1992. In a superbly written article, Lee puts over his feelings on the mood and mystery of Loch Ness, reading this article, you can almost feel that you are there. Good mag this. Subs are, (UK) £1:50 single issue, payable to, Lee Walker, 156 Bolton Road East, New Ferry, Wirral, Merseyside, England, L62 4R7.

MAGONIA, AUGUST 1995 (A4). Editor John Rimmer and his alternative way to look at UFOlogy can be found with added contributors to this fine magazine. Michael Goss looks at the hypnotic controversy, should it be used on

abductees ? This highly researched article presents it's case, and it's a good one at that ! Childhood trauma and it's relation to UFO abductions, are looked at by Peter Rogerson which is quite interesting. Subs are, (UK) £5:00 for four issues. (Europe) £6:00, (USA) \$13:00, [USA subscriptions to be paid in dollar bills only]. Cheques payable to, John Rimmer at John Dee Cottage, 5 James Terrace, Mortlake Churchyard, London, England, SW14 8HB.

IUFOPRA JOURNAL, SUMMER 1995 (A4). From the lovely Emerald Isle (Where part of Mel Gibson's Braveheart was filmed) comes the IUFOPRA Journal, Edited by Pat Delaney and Anne Griffin. Great mag this, full of interesting reports on UFOs. Miles Johnston, that likable bearded Irishman, writes on his alien hunt. There is the Bible and it's UFO connections, and some more info on the infamous Eduard Meir, liar or honest individual ? (me-thinks liar !). I liked Nick O Gorman's article on 'what psychology can tell us about UFOs'. For more information including subscription rates, write to IUFOPRA, P.O. Box 3070, Whitehall, Dublin 9 Ireland.

BUFORA NEWSFILE, (A4). This is purely a jam-packed newsletter on British UFO press reports from the major Daylies to the small local newspapers. For sub rates write to, Mike Hudson at 71 Knight Avenue, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 8PY, England.

GHOSTWATCH, ISSUE 8 VOL 2 (A5). This magazine just gets better and better. Editor Mike McKeown knows his stuff, and this lively wee mag sure gets the message across. Articles on Electronic Voice Phenomena, Doppelgangers and more, all gel to make this a fine read. The layout and headings of this mag are truly eye-catching as well. Subs are, (UK) £2:50 single issue. Cheques/P.O.'s to, P.O. Box 54, Birkenhead, England, L43 7FD.

SPECTRAL, OCT/DEC 1995, (A5). Following on the heels of GHOSTWATCH comes a similar publication 'SPECTRAL' which in it's own way is as good as GHOSTWATCH. Editor John Anderson packs this mag with interesting ghostly tales. (SPI have a ghost article in this issue), so a good wee read, and one I would recommend. Subs are, (UK) £1:50 single issue, £6:00 per year. (USA) \$15:00 per year. (Europe) £10:00 per year, dollar bills only please for USA subscribers. Cheques payable to, John Anderson, SPECTRAL, P.O. Box 18, Aberdare, Mid Glamorgan, Wales, UK, CF44 87G.

THE NEW UFOLOGIST No 3 (A4). This is BUFORA's chief publication which has five Editors working for it (including Jenny Randles). This issue looks at 'Why Todmorden' ? [a UFO hot spot]. Anders Liljergen has a fine article on Swedish UFOlogy, plus other UFO items. Subs are, (UK) £8:00 per year. (Europe) £12:00 per year, (USA & THE REST OF THE WORLD) \$20:00. Send to, The New UFOlogist, 71 Knight Avenue, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 8PY, England.

FORTEAN TIMES No 83 (A4). Simply the best ! Life wouldn't be the same without it. A fine mysteries magazine devoted to all strange and paranormal topics, if it ain't in here I'll start supporting Hearts Football Club, (perish the thought !) Subs are, (See earlier review of which the Editor forgot he had already written, decreasing brain cells you know !!)

SKYLINK No 12 (A4). From the London UFO Studies Group under the capable leadership of Roy Lake, comes SKYLINK which again is one of the magazines which keep you instep of what is currently going on in regards to UFO sightings in the U.K. This mag is packed with UFO cases and interesting UFO articles, and is a mag which I always look forward to. Subs are, (UK) £6:00 4 issues, (USA) \$15:00, send to LUFOS, 10A Tudor Road, Barking, England.

NOTHERN UFO NEWS, Sep 1995 (A5). The magazine of Jenny Randles which presents all that's current in British UFOlogy. If you want to know what's going on in the U.K. then you can do no better to subscribe to this one. Subs are, £7:00 for six. Cheques payable to Northern UFO News, and send to 11 Pike Court, Fleetwood, Lancashire, England, FY7 8QF.

ANOMALY Vol 17 (A5). The magazine of ASSAP (The Association for the scientific study of anomalous phenomenon). This issue has articles on the Tarot, Psychic Questing, and Strange Croydon. It only comes out twice a year which is a shame. (UK) £2:50 single issue. Write to Hugh Pincott, ASSAP, 20 Paul Street, Frome, Somerset, England, BA11 1DX.

INFO JOURNAL 73 (A4). The magazine of the International Fortean Organisation, (The American equivalent of Britain's Fortean Times). This issue has items on the Norwegian ghost fliers of 1933-37, giant snakes in Maryland, the Batsquatch flap, and much more, an interesting read. Write to the INFO Journal at P.O. Box 367, Arlington, VA, 22210-0367, USA for more details.

3rd STONE, Winter 1995 (A4). The magazine representing British Earth Mysteries, encompassing, standing stones, Druid circles, supernatural highways, and much more to wet your appetite. Subs are, (UK) £7:00 for 3 issues, (Rest Of The World) £10:00, Sample issue £2:50. Send to 3rd Stone, P.O. Box 258 Cheltenham, England, GL53 0HR U.K.

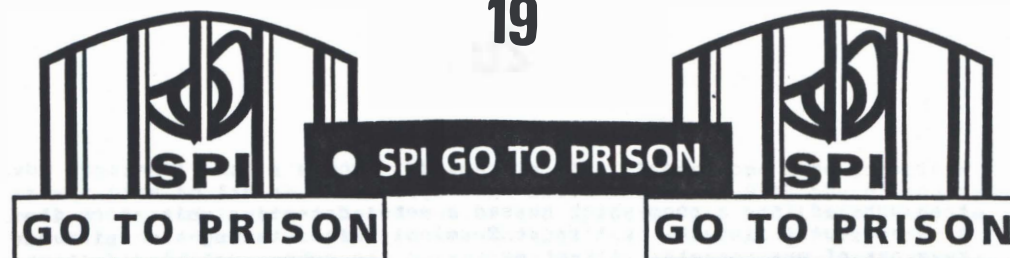
GHOST TRACKERS NEWSLETTER Vol 14 No 3 (A4) The magazine of the ghost research society (USA) A marvellous publication this, with many weird and wonderful stories all on the ghostly and paranormal front. SPI's Kilsyth ghost case of August 1994 is featured here. Subs are, (USA) \$12:00 (Overseas) \$20:00. Write to Dale Kaczmarek, P.O. Box 205, Oak Lawn, IL, 60454-0205 U.S.A.

ENCOUNTERS DEC 1995 (A4). A new British magazine dealing with all aspects of the paranormal which is on sale at all major British newsagents. This issue deals with alien abductions, Belgian UFOs, Do Vampires really exist? The Ouija Board, and much more. (UK) £2:99 single issue, from Encounters, Paragon Publishing Ltd, Paragon House, St Peters Road, Bournemouth, Dorset, England, UK BH1 2JS, or purchase it at your local high street newsagents.

[N.B. Please note that our magazine review featured here, was due to be featured last issue but had to be dropped due to space required for other items. All addresses and prices are still relevant].

You can now reach SPI on the Internet. Try our WWW site

<http://www.cee.hw.ac.uk:80/~ceewb/spi/spihome.htm>



Lecture a ghost of a chance for lifers

LIFERS at a top security prison are to be given a lecture in out-of-body experiences.

Psychic Investigators Malcolm Robinson and Billy Devlin have been called to the Special Unit at Shotts to talk about UFOs and their ghostbusting experiences, as part of an incentive by the Scottish Office to rehabilitate long-term prisoners.

But Labour MP John McFall slammed the talk as a 'gross waste of public money'. He said: 'Rather than talking about unidentified flying objects it would seem to make more sense for prisoners to be addressed in identifiable issues for constructive rehabilitation.'

'Talking about flashing lights in the sky is hardly likely to set them on the right track for rejoining society.'

But local MP Dr John Reid had no problems with the talk. 'If it were a one-off then it would certainly be a little bizarre to talk about flying saucers but as one of a series of lectures aimed at general rehabilitation I don't see anything wrong with it,' he said.

'Boredom amongst life prisoners is a serious problem that must be tackled.'

'Talks such as these stimulate and generate interest amongst the prisoners and that can only be to the good.'

Daily Mail Nov 95.

Lecturing to a captive audience is one thing, but lecturing to a captive audience who won't be leaving the building that you are lecturing in for at least another 30 years, is another, but then again this wasn't your normal lecture, far from it. This was a lecture of which I personally had a wee bit of the "shakes" about and that was 'before' I even got there. The venue of this lecture wasn't a Town Hall, wasn't even a Community Hall, nope, this was Shotts Prison in deepest Lanarkshire home to some of Scotland's most hardened criminals.

SPI had been invited by the Governor of Shotts Prison, who himself was contacted by inmate Andy Walker who had seen an article in the Scotsman Newspaper regarding SPI and it's involvement with the UFO sightings in Bonnybridge. Andy felt that we, ie, Billy Devlin and myself, should come to the Prison and let the inmates know all what's going on. Andy presented the idea to the Governor and he okayed it and soon after we were contacted by phone by a Prison official asking if we'd like to do it. Well I've lectured to a good few people over the years including a classroom of school kids, (The memory of which will live with me for a long time). But this was something different. After chewing the issue over, I decided "why not"

Some would argue that SPI should not become involved with this type of education through either a moral or political angle. Perhaps they are right, who's really to know! All I knew was that it would be a challenge, whether it was right to do it or not, I really don't know and I won't press the point here. Suffice it to say that both Billy Devlin and I agreed to do it and made our thoughts plain to a Prison official. As it turned out, we would be lecturing in the 'Special Unit' of Shotts Prison. This was a particular area of the Prison which housed eight of the most hardened and troublesome category A prisoners in Scotland. The Special Unit was initially introduced in Glasgow's Barlinnie Prison which housed the famous murderer Jimmy Boyle who has since served his sentence and now lives quietly with his wife back in the community. Barlinnie's Special Unit was shut down a few years ago and was introduced to Shotts a few years back.

The day duly arrived, and both Billy and I nervously approached the security gatehouse of Shotts Prison. A prison official behind a large glass screen, took our names and Billy had to hand in his mobile phone. We were

then ushered into a room which housed a metal detection unit, much the same as you'll find at any Airport Terminal. After taking the coins and keys out of our pockets, (I kept my eye on the coins, well I didn't want anyone to nick them did I !) I walked through the unit, no beeps, I was safe. Billy and I were then ushered into the Special Unit by a prison officer who was built like a brick s**t house, (he'd be the type of guy you wouldn't want to upset unless of course you were on the phone to him from Australia !).

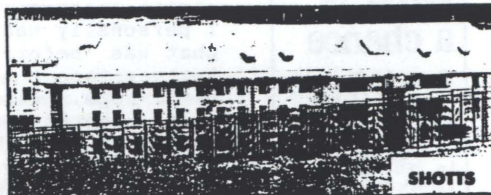
The Special Unit itself is actually quite small, smaller than I had imagined. Apart from the small cells, it houses a large gym and two craft rooms for woodwork and the like. What amazed me was, that there was chisels, hammers and saws all lying freely about on the various workbenches. I asked one of the inmates, "Dosen't this tempt you" ? His

answer was, "No, we don't want to spoil it for ourselves, we are not going to do anything silly in this place" Indeed (!) A large snooker table featured impressively in the centre of the room in which a couple of inmates were enjoying a game. The whole atmosphere "appeared" relaxed, but underneath it all you still very much knew that this was a secure unit and that these were no ordinary men, they were here for a purpose, paying their debt to society, for, well I guess you know what.

Both Billy and I began to sort our stuff out, slides videos etc, and soon we were ready to begin. By now several prison inmates had sat down as well as the prison governor and the prison minister. Some of the prisoners wives were also in attendance. I must admit, I was a wee bit apprehensive as I looked around at those prisoners sat before me, (some of them had more tatoos than Edinburgh's seen in 20 years !!) but as soon as I got started I was O.K. When I was discussing Biblical UFOs [references to UFOs in the Bible], I noticed that the minister began to smirk, soon after, he got up from his chair and left the room, (some home truths here I wonder !).

The trouble with me, is when I get started on my subject, I just lose track of time, for all I want to do is talk and talk UFOs, and that's what I did. sadly though I didn't realise how long I was on until I looked across at Billy Devlin who's face was contorted at trying to tell me something. I looked at my watch, "Oh no" I'd ran over time and straight into and through Billy Devlin's allotted time. (Billy was going to speak to the prisoners on the supernatural and some of SPI's ghostly cases). I quickly completed my talk and began to take questions from my captive audience (pun intended).

Above the normal questions that always get asked, ie, UFO cover-Ups, etc, were questions posed to me by a young boy of around 12 years of age who was asking the most intelligent and structured questions that I've ever been asked by anyone. He went on about UFOs over Puerto Rico, The Billy Meir case, Betty and Barney Hill and much more. I think I should retire and let this young fellow take over, but then again, I wasn't surprised to find out that this young fellow was no other than the Governor's son.



SHOTTS PRISON IN LANARKSHIRE.

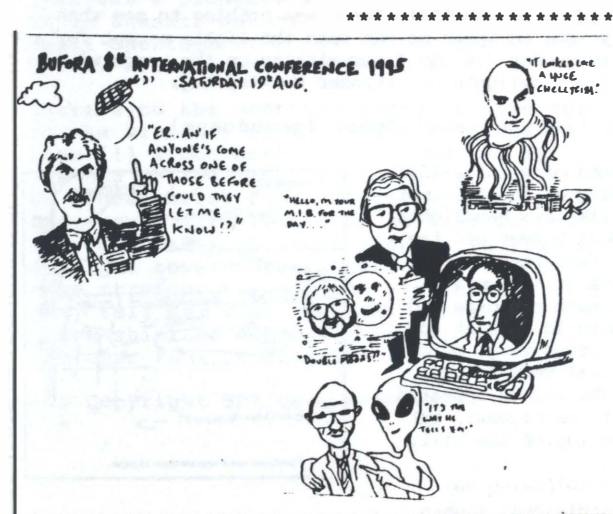
who apparently had a strong interest in UFOs. After some more questions it was time to finish, and after some small chit chat with the prisoners, both Billy and I were ushered out of the Special Unit and through to the security gatehouse. We thanked the Governor and inmate Andy Walker for having us and we hoped that it had been of interest to them. Andy was enthusiastic and said he found the talk enjoyable. Normally after SPI meetings or lectures, everyone usually goes over to the pub for a pint. But somehow I don't think that the Governor would allow his Special Unit inmates to trek over to the nearest hostelry to indulge in alcoholic beverages, so I kept quiet on that one.

POSTSCRIPT.

After getting an ear roasting from Billy Devlin in the car going home about him not getting his chance to speak (after preparing for it all week with family and friends wishing him well) I apologised profusely and offered to lick his boots till the next UFO landing. I got away with that one but was shocked to find that on my arrival home, that opening my briefcase I had mistakingly took one of the Special Unit's video tapes, (I had been using video tapes during my lecture). "Oh no" I thought to myself, this is tragic, the inmates will be going spare, (the video was The Wall by Pink Floyd). I immediately phoned Shotts Prison and explained what I'd done, that I had mistakingly taken their video from the Special Unit, and the exact words of the prison officer on the other end of the phone were, "Is that right, you know you can get the jail for that" ! I gave a half-hearted laugh and promised to return it the next day.

So dear readers, where will SPI find ourselves lecturing next I wonder ! An ASDA Superstore, the Robert Brothers Circus ! well I'll tell you what, after lecturing at a top maximum security prison, nothing will surprise me now.

Report by the Editor.



CARTOON CAVALCADE.

I've took a bit of ribbing in the press now and again, but it was good old BUFORA that had me laughing. From their magazine the UFO TIMES they featured this cartoon of speakers from the 8th International UFO Congress held in Sheffield England last year.

That's me on the left as if you hadn't guessed with Russian UFOlogist Dr Sergey Chernouss top right, Philip Mantle, Per Anderson of Denmark, Maurizio Verga from Italy, and finally Dr Leo Sprinkle from the good ole USA.

Yeah, good one guys.

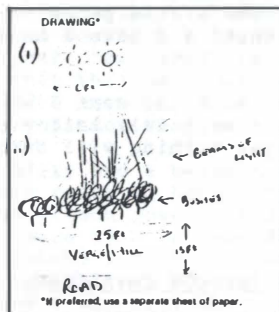
DATE: 20th October 1995. TIME: 01:00am.

LOCATION: A92 Near Dundonald, Fife, Central Scotland.

The following case is yet another which illustrates the fact that not only do we have UFO sightings seen in the sky, but we also have low level close proximity sightings as well. The following concerns the testimony of two gentlemen who were driving down the A92 when the incident happened. Firstly the testimony of Fraser Meiklejohn.

At about 1am on the 20th of October 1995, it appeared that a car was travelling towards me on the Northbound carriageway of the A92, (it was travelling south). It was about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile from me. Within a second or two of seeing the object(s) I braked. It continued towards me at an estimated speed of over 100mph. About 5 or 6 feet from the bonnet of my car, it lifted and passed over my car only a few feet from the roof. There was no sound or turbulence. I looked in the rear view mirror and it, or they, still appeared to be car headlights.

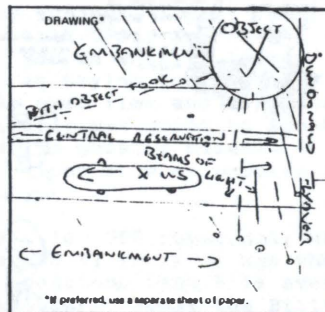
My friend and I hesitated in looking back, we were too shocked to move. The grass verge, which is about 10 to 15 feet high, was then lit up by "dancing" white light. When we looked back, the top of the hill by the Southbound carriageway was lit up by beams of light, too many individual shafts of light to count, they moved erratically. We then drove at speed to the Kirkcaldy slip road, and crossed onto the Southbound Carriageway. We passed a tall fair haired guy running hell for leather back towards Kirkcaldy. This was about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the lights on the hill. There was nothing to see when we got to where we had seen the lights except for a burgundy V.W. Golf car sitting on the verge with its sidelights on. [Fraser Meiklejohn].



I now continue with the testimony of Paul Short (pseudonym).

At about 01:00am on Friday 20th of October 1995, we were travelling to Kirkcaldy on the A92 near Dundonald, when what seemed like two headlights flew over the car roughly about 5 feet off the ground. It was travelling so fast that it had an effect similar to the flash of a camera going off inside our car. It made no noise and no downdraught. I turned around in my seat to look to see what it was. The grass verge on our carrigeway was lit up by several very bright lights moving very quickly. The lights appeared to be coming from the opposite carrigeway, but not on the road, but from the top of the hill.

The lights did not seem to be following any set pattern, except for two individual lights



SO WHAT'S BEING DONE WITH THIS CASE ?

Well this case was passed onto me by Mike Scott, (see SPI lectures this issue) I travelled with Mike and his girlfriend over to Cadham near Glenrothes where one of the witnesses stays, (Fraser Meiklejohn). Both Mike and I interviewed him at length after which we all jumped into the car and headed off to the location of the sighting. Having parked the car in a lay-by, we then ascended the large grass verge towards the area in which both witnesses claim to have seen these strange lights dancing in the sky just above the verge.

As it was fairly dark, it was hard to see apart from the torch beam (thankfully I had brought along my trusty torch). Both Mike and I poked and prodded a grassy area, the grass here would be around several inches tall but was bent over towards the ground, due most probably to strong winds which would undoubtedly whip across this tall verge. Behind this grassy area was a ploughed field, with further fi of an unusual nature was found in these ar small openings or holes in the grass, but birds, mice, or other wild fowl.

Letters to the Scottish Airports have been sent to see if anything was in the vicinity on the night in question, so far I have received no replies (!) I contacted the Glenrothes Police and they informed me that no one had called their office with similar sightings. O.K. readers, lets be honest here, think of the scenario. Your driving in your car on a dual carriageway with little or no traffic, suddenly you see up ahead of you, 2 bright balls of light rushing in your direction, which proceed to come straight towards you, then, just as you think that they are going to come straight through the windscreen, they whip up and over your car. So pray tell me, what 'natural' object can do that (!) Obviously not a space-ship, so earth-lights perhaps ? (This would be a good one for researcher Paul Devereaux).

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'UFO' TERROR ON LATE-NIGHT DRIVE

TWO friends were terrorised recently as they travelled in a car late at night by what they are sure were UFOs.

The Glenrothes men were driving on a quiet stretch of dual-carriageway when they saw what they thought was another car heading towards them the wrong way.

Mystery

But their initial fear of a crash turned to amazement when they realised that the "headlights" were actually two independent balls of light which raced straight at them before zooming over the top of the car.

lights and another motorist running, as if in panic, from his car.

This astonishing case, from late October, is just the latest being probed by top UFO investigator Malcolm Robinson, who's just had his busiest ever year.

Malcolm has found himself at the heart of the biggest mystery of the UFO world, the ~~Bermuda Triangle~~ **Bermuda Triangle**. The quiet Central Scotland town and surrounding area is the world's top "hotspot" for mysterious sky sightings.

THE WEEKLY NEWS 16/12/95.

ENIGMAS FEB-MARCH 1996.

● SPI LECTURES



STRANGE
PHENOMENA
INVESTIGATIONS

RON HALLIDAY LECTURE, MONDAY 13th NOVEMBER 1995.

SPI's second guest speaker evening featured Mr Ron Halliday an old friend of mine. Ron was a stalwart Investigator for SPI back in the late 1980's and early 1990's. He was also instrumental in giving me a shove into producing the SPI Journal ENIGMAS at a time when I had other things on my mind ! Ron was also instrumental in making sure that Scotland's famous UFO event of 1979, namely the Livingston event, was commemorated. This was done by the placement of a stone cairn with worded plaque at the scene of the Bob Taylor encounter. SPI commemorated this event back in 1992.

I have also fond memories of the Loch Morar trip which was organised by Ron back in 1990 to do research work on the shores of Loch Morar, a loch which is said to host Scotland's other famous 'water beastie' namely Morag, a cousin, it would seem of the Loch Ness Monster !! Our Investigation into Stirling's haunted Tolbooth, also brings back fond memories, and although Ron and I have not seen eye to eye on certain subjects over the past few years, we nonetheless share the same enthusiasim to indulge ourselves in the strange world of the paranormal.

Ron's talk was peppared with stories about Alfred Watkins and Ley Lines, Sacred Geometry, and an astronimical zodiac which Ron contests surrounds Edinburgh. This Zodiac is ground marked through hedgerows, edges of fields, tree lines etc, which when viewed from the air, looks suspiciously like Tarus the bull, Aries the ram etc, although to me, I couldn't see the match at all ! When asked if there were any Ley Lines which criss-crossed Bonnybridge or certain areas of Stirlingshire, Ron Replied that there were very few.



Ron Halliday.

Ron then went on to discuss his involement with SPI's Loch Morar Project of 1990 and the dowsing techniques employed there, (see ENIGMAS Aug-Sep 1990). Ron found a number of Ley Lines which criss-crossed Loch Morar and essentially proved that it was a place of unusual power. Ron also discussed Scotland's famous Livingston Incident of 1979 and also some of his own interesting UFO case work, most of which came from the Edinburgh region where there have been a number of UFO sightings over the past two years.

All in all, the lecture given by Ron Halliday, was to me personally, very interesting. Ron is a good speaker, (a wee bit soft spoken maybe) but a good speaker nonetheless. This meeting was filmed by Carlton Television who brought their cameras up from London to do a small piece on Scottish UFOlogy. [This was aired twice on National Television in November 1995]. Our thanks go to Ron Halliday for a most enjoyable and interesting talk.

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MIKE SCOTT LECTURE, MONDAY 11th DECEMBER 1995.

SPI's 3rd guest speaker, was a chap called Mike Scott who is a seasoned Investigator into the paranormal. Mike spoke about early Spiritualism famous scientists, the Investigation of Spiritualism by William Crooks, the mediumship of Scottish psychic Daniel Dunglass Home, and also the incredible phenomena which was said to occur in the seance room, namely the levitation of trumpets, materialisations, ectoplasm, etc. But it was Mike's Investigation into medium Chay Backshall in November 1993 that really made the night. Now rather than put forward my own notes on this highly important issue (which admittedly has been covered elsewhere) I would prefer to feature here in ENIGMAS, Mike's own written account of what happened, and it reads as follows.

REPORT ON PHYSICAL SEANCES AT THE ARTHUR FINDLAY COLLEGE WITH CHAY BACKSHALL ON 23rd & 25th NOVEMBER 1993.

BACKGROUND.

I organised the experimental week at Stansted along with Vi Kipling. This year the week was held two weeks before physical week, and the medium on our week was Glyn Edwards. One of the features of our week was the infra-red video system I was developing, and when Glyn saw this he asked if I would bring it with me to his physical week. At that time he said that Chay Backshall, the physical medium that he sat with and who was going to demonstrate on physical week, would not sit with any form of camera, but Glyn would introduce me to the medium as soon as he arrived in the hope that, once he saw how unobtrusive the camera is, he would change his mind and allow video filming of his seances. Upon arriving on Glyn's week, he duly introduced me to Chay, but later that evening he informed Glyn that he would not be filmed.

FIRST SEANCE WITH CHAY BACKSHALL.

I was selected to sit in the first seance with Chay. This was held in the Blue Room which had been very well blacked out for the whole week. All of the lounge chairs and couches had been removed and replaced by seats for the students and tutors and the medium's circle. The circle consisting of, the medium, his wife Masie, Jean Matheson and Glyn who sat in the bay window area around a small octagonal table which belonged to the medium who had his back to the window with Glyn on his left, his wife Masie on his right, and Jean opposite on the far side of the table. The students and tutors chairs were placed in concentric semi-circles facing the window.



GLYN EDWARDS (c)
SPI PHOTOS.

There were approximately five rows of chairs with the tutors for the week on the first row. The other seats were filled on a first come first served basis. It had been intimated in advance that once everyone was present, the seats could be moved forward and closer to the inner circle for a better view. Glyn said some words of introduction and Jean then explained the sort of phenomenon to expect. The seance was to be held in pitch darkness with the light switch taped over to prevent accidental operation, and someone was posted at the door to ensure entry or exit once the seance had begun. Everyone was to remain quiet while the medium was entering trance which would commence as soon as the light was extinguished and he would most likely be completely entranced by the time Glyn had finished the opening prayer.

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It was explained that the trumpet would likely spell out the alphabet very rapidly on the table and that no-one should attempt to call out the letters, as it was by now a very well practised form of communication of the name of the particular spirit in control of the trumpet, and would be so fast that only Jean, Masie, or Glyn should try and spell aloud. Eric Williams reminded Jean to announce that no-one should attempt to touch the trumpet if it came close to them. The Lord's prayer would be spoken out loud at the end of the opening prayer, and everyone was invited to join in if they wished. The trumpet was produced by Masie from a carrier bag and held up to the light to "energise" the phosphorous paint. There were strips of phosphorous on each of the eight sides of the table, and also at the feet of the legs which spread out from a central section made of three fairly thin vertical columns placed closely together. The table was also held up to the light to "energise" it, and finally we were ready to start.

The white light was put out leaving the room to be lit dimly by simple purpose built seance lamp consisting of a dimmer switch and red bulb. This item was provided by Joan Hammond and myself. This was immediately extinguished, and Glyn said the opening prayer with everyone joining in the Lord's Prayer. By the end of the prayer I could hear the medium breathing heavily and making slight 'coughing' or 'spluttering' noises as if clearing his throat. After a few minutes the trumpet began to rattle on the table as if the table were being shaken. From this point on, a running commentary was given rather excitedly by Glyn. Shortly after the trumpet started shaking, the table began to tilt slightly from side to side. This was quite visible as I could see the phosphorous tabs around the table top. The table tilted quite far over to the medium's right, in the direction of where I was sitting, and the trumpet remained on top, even though the table probably tilted to an angle of approximately 45 degrees. The table then returned to an upright position, and soon after the trumpet began to rap out a message which was announced by Masie and Jean to be Peter, the name of one of the controls.

THE TRUMPET CONTINUES TO MOVE.

The trumpet then stopped rattling and soon after lifted off the table and moved about 3 feet above the top, and then back towards the medium, maintaining a height of about 5 or 6 feet. A voice then spoke saying something like "I am Peter", and then a few other words which were unclear from where I sat, but were probably "a servant of God" which Glyn had related previously in a lecture to be the normal introductory phrase of Peter, one of the controls. The trumpet then returned to the table top. It was noticeable that the breathing and throat clearing noise of the medium stopped during the time that the trumpet was levitated. This had been mentioned by Glyn in one of his earlier lectures. When the trumpet was placed on the table, the breathing sounds started again coming clearly from the direction of the medium's chair.

After this, the trumpet again levitated and began some rapid movements in the air, some of which were figure eight's in a plane perpendicular to the axis joining trumpet and medium. The first time this happened I was impressed by the apparent height that the trumpet reached, yet it never stopped in its arc to allow a better judgement of height. The trumpet then began a series of movements with its large end facing the audience, stopping apparently in front and above individuals in the first row of seats (tutors). It simply wagged up and down supposedly acknowledging the people seated. Someone, I believe Glyn, said that the phosphorous paint around the base made it look like a large eye, and that the spirit operator could see us all sitting there.

By this point I had become more than a bit suspicious. The trumpet was moving in an arc which could be reached by the medium at arms length if he was standing in front of the table. In addition, the movements seemed to be 'too good'. The trumpet moved around very positively and the control was so precise. I wondered why it remained so close to the medium's position. Also, the behaviour of the trumpet could best be described as infantile and indeed reminded me of watching a puppet mime. On one occasion it responded to a lady,

(I believe Maureen Skinner who was sitting in the front row near to Glyn) coughing. It was explained to the circle that this was in response to the cough, which caused laughter. Apart from moving about in this way, and 'nodding' up and down to say 'yes', or moving from side to side to say 'no', there was no other communication. At some stage the trumpet again moved up to a point about 5 feet off the floor between the table and the medium, and through it a voice said "Barry" who was apparently one of the other controls. This voice, and the last one of Peter, sounded exactly as I would expect the medium to sound if 'he' was speaking through the trumpet.

The trumpet continued to 'acknowledge' people in the front row, and gradually moved around towards the side where I was sitting. Since I was now extremely dubious about the phenomena, I started waving at the trumpet as it moved into the approximate area of Swami Dharmananda who was seated in front of me. My intention was to draw the attention of the controlling spirit if there was one. From that point on I waved frantically, but there was no response at all, yet coughs and verbal comments from the audience were responded to vigorously by the trumpet.

WHOEVER WAS MOVING THE TRUMPET COULD APPARENTLY NOT SEE IN THE DARK !

At this stage I stood up so that I could get an improved view of the table and a better perspective of both trumpet movements and breathing sounds of the medium when nothing was happening, and another bearing on any sounds that came through the trumpet. While standing, I also frequently waved both arms vigorously whenever the trumpet moved in my general direction. Despite repeatedly responding to sounds made by the audience, there was no reaction to my visual actions. Whoever was moving the trumpet could apparently 'not see in the dark'. At times the trumpet would circle the table very quickly, but I could see that this was no extraordinary feat considering that the edge of the table was marked with luminous strips. Then the trumpet very rapidly moved in an arc back towards the medium and hit him on the head, moving back to its original position over the table without stopping. The whole action was a single movement, as if the trumpet 'bounced' off the medium's head. It was very fast, but thanks to my vantage standing point, it was quite clear that the trumpet bounced off the head of a 'standing' medium. There was absolutely no doubt in my mind about this. Confirmation came a few seconds later when the manoeuvre was repeated, and I paid even greater attention to the point where the impact occurred, which was at a height of about five feet eight and approximately between the medium's chair and the table.

THE TRUMPET ALWAYS POINTED TOWARDS THE MEDIUM !

It had also become apparent from my standing position, that the apparently high arcs that the trumpet made rapidly, were not nearly as high as they had appeared when I was seated. In fact, they were only a few feet above my line of vision, and could easily be made by the medium standing 'holding the trumpet'. It had been said that the trumpet was often placed rapidly on the table without a sound, but in this particular seance, what was happening was that the trumpet would move back on to the table and simultaneously begin rattling or rapping letters of the alphabet. Another tell-tale sign was that the pointed end of the trumpet always pointed 'towards' the medium while it was moving around through the air. This is exactly what would be expected if the medium was holding the trumpet by the small end. There was no luminous paint on this end of the trumpet which would have been obscured had someone taken hold of it. It is significant to note that in genuine trumpet phenomena, the trumpet often moves around with its axis pointing in the same direction in space, rather than pointing radially towards the medium's shoulder joint. It is often described by investigators as moving a bit like a fish, and not as if the medium was holding it at arms length.

On several occasions after the trumpet had been replaced on the table, the table tilted violently and the trumpet was thrown off on to Glyn's or Masie's lap. On one of these occasions, the table then proceeded to levitate to a height of about 5 feet, and at a slight angle of about 15 to 20 degrees. Once more the movement was exactly like a table being lifted by one arm at arm's length. It only stayed in the air for a few seconds and did not move more than a foot or so forward of the original position, towards or slightly to the right of Jean. It placed back in its original position. On one occasion, the trumpet moved right over towards Masie and the luminous large end moved over the top of her head from her left to right and then down her right cheek. Since I was sitting behind and to the left of Masie, I was able to lean forward to a position of a few inches of the trumpet. Masie's face and profile were quite visible from the light cast from the luminous point. I realised that if the trumpet was moved roughly into the area of a sitter, if it was close enough, the medium could see them to move it in and touch them in the dark. A similar incident occurred when the trumpet was placed over Masie's left hand. I could clearly see her hand and forearm from the light of the trumpet.

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A very important point is that no evidence of survival whatsoever was given or attempted during the whole seance. Although we are to believe that direct voice was produced, no one known to any person, other than the circle guides, spoke, and no information or message was provided about any person in the spirit world.

After about 50 minutes the trumpet movements stopped, and it appeared to be the end of the seance. After a few minutes that medium announced that he was "back" and the red light was put on at its dimmest setting. The medium had a drink of water and quite soon the light was turned up to full brightness. I was surprised to see the medium in a very alert state and apparently none the worse for wear after his deep entrancement.

I left the seance very disillusioned and convinced that I had witnessed fraudulent phenomena. At the moment I could identify very strongly with Sir William Barrett who, although convinced of the genuineness of Spiritualistic phenomena and survival, nonetheless reported that most of the seances he witnessed were without value since they occurred in the dark and could be explained by simple juggling. It was quite clear to any good observer that the medium had been standing out of his chair during much of the seance, and, that granted there was certainly no evidence of phenomena of any kind that could not be explained by Sir William Barrett's 'base juggling'. The performance was obviously well practiced and polished, but should not have fooled any trained observer.

HOW THE SEANCE WAS FILMED.

After the seance of Tuesday night, I was left with very mixed feelings. I had immediately after, suggested again to Glyn, that the phenomena had to be filmed in infra-red. Later that evening he reported to me that the medium had again refused. This only confirmed what I already knew, he had been out of his seat, and the camera would uncover that immediately. So after much soul searching, I decided that I had to attempt to uncover what was going on. I looked to find a place where I could hide the camera to film the next seance which was to be held on the Thursday evening. I had to get proof that the medium was out of his seat and not slumped in deep trance. After much inspection of the blue room, I discovered that there was a space inside the top of the convector heater situated immediately behind the medium's chair. The front had fairly wide slats through which the narrow lens of the camera could see. I tested this on the Wednesday night and found it to give a good view of the medium's chair from behind.

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On the Thursday afternoon I connected the camera to the television aerial cable leading out through the blue room window so that I could get the signal to the outside where I could place the video recorder. The situation could not have been better if it had been planned. Those who believe that there is no such thing as coincidence would find much evidence for their theories. All I would say is that the whole process of setting up and testing the camera were suspiciously fortunate and trouble free. Once everyone was in place in the blue room for the Thursday seance, I went to the bar and set up my video recorder and attached it to the television which had been moved there from the blue room to make room for the seance. I tapped the aerial cable and ran a second cable along to the bar and through the window to my video recorder. Unusually no one came into the bar during the whole time I was there. I had brought a large 100m reel of low loss coax since Glyn had asked if I could set up seances for filming and live viewing in another room. Therefore everything fell into place to allow me to make the recording.

REACTION TO FILMING.

After the seance finished, I went straight to the blue room door and attempted to get in and speak to Glyn. It was my initial intention to speak to him and Jean only, and let them see the video. However, I could not get into the room as it was full of people trying to get out. I waited for Glyn to emerge and informed him that I had to speak to him and Jean about an urgent matter as soon as possible. He suggested that we could talk after the private sitting that was to be held with Judith Seaman to allow her guides a chance to attempt to produce physical phenomena before her public seance the next day.

Shortly after this, some-one opened the flap in the top of the heater to try and adjust the heating controls and found the camera. At this point I was in the lower gallery and heard someone come through saying that the camera had been discovered. I proceeded at once to the medium's quarters to speak to Glyn. When I arrived there, I found him in a very upset state, and even though I tried to calm him down, he only got more upset and I realised that I had better withdraw until things cooled down. I then sought Judith Seaman and took her aside and explained what had happened, and what the video showed. We decided to inform the hall manager, Alan Reynolds, and Judith went to find him. Soon after this I heard people saying that the medium and his wife wanted to go straight home, although at this point only Judith Seaman knew what the video showed. Glyn had portrayed the circle as a group of people who were very sceptical and interested in the mechanics of the phenomena. If we give the medium the benefit of the doubt, and assume that he was not conscious of what he was doing, it seems strange that he would not want to know what the video had revealed of his mediumship, because he would believe that it would prove him genuine.

THE VIDEO SHOULD BE MADE PUBLIC AND NOT KEPT UNDER WRAPS.

Both Alan Reynolds and Judith Seaman were keen to see the video that evening, but I insisted that I be given time to make a copy before I let it go out of my hands. I knew that I would be left in a very difficult position should the video 'disappear'. Therefore I left the hall with my own video and the one from the lounge and went into Bishops Stortford to make a copy at a friend's. As soon as this was done I returned to the hall and went to the Manager's flat for a viewing. Present for this were, Glyn Edwards, Judith Seaman, Haydn Clark, John (surname unknown), Joan Hammond and myself. We watched the whole video and it was decided that first thing next morning, the students would have to be told what had happened and what the video showed. I agreed to speak on the medium's behalf in the assumption that he was unconscious of what he was doing.

After breakfast on Friday, everyone was asked to assemble in the Sanctuary, and it was announced by Glyn and Judith, that a video had been made and that it showed some movement of the medium. The medium and his wife had been talked into staying and he spoke

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briefly to say that if he stood up, he was not aware of it and then said that I had ruined him. My main concern at that time, was that things should be done to protect the college and the SNU, (Spiritualist National Union), and that we had to be seen to be open and honest over the whole matter. An NEC meeting had been scheduled for that weekend and so I spoke to Robert Hartrick and Eric Hatton when they arrived. It was decided that the video would not be released at that stage, and that the medium should be given a chance to do a test sitting to prove himself genuine. I said that I would like to be present and that the camera should be used. I was given an assurance from Eric Hatton that whatever took place, it would be in consultation with myself.

I left for home, content with that understanding that had been reached, but unhappy about the fact that no public statement was going to be made, and that the video was to remain for now, under wraps. I retained the original, and the Hall kept the copy. I had told Robert Hartrick that I would consider giving back the original copy, but only after the matter had been dealt with to my satisfaction. I felt, and still feel, that the video should be made public so that people can decide for themselves.

Mike Scott. (c)

STATEMENT BY THE EDITOR.

Readers, whilst I am proud to be a Spiritualist, it pains me to learn of those individuals who are out to deceive and profit from the bereavement of others. I know there are charlatans out there, and how very sad it all is. Mike didn't set out to destroy this guy, he wanted "proof" of psychic phenomena at work in the seance room, sadly, as he found out later, he got more than he bargained for. This issue caused a big big stir a few years ago, and many people, who will for the meantime remain unnamed, should be ashamed for backing up Chay Backshall, (unless of course they really didn't know that he was a fraud).

We researchers are here to provide proof, but we're also here to shoot down in flames those individuals who are out to dupe the public. These people are a cancer which paranormal research can do without, and if we can expose them for the rats that they are, then I'm all for it.

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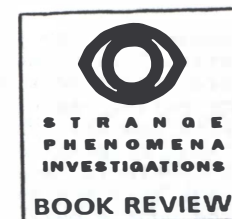
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Recommended books



TITLE: THE UFO PHENOMENA. AUTHOR: EDWARD ASHPOLE.

PUBLISHER: HEADLINE PUBLISHING. PRICE: £18:99 (Hbk).

Author Edward Ashpole writes as a qualified biology and science teacher and an internationally published science writer of many years. He is also the author of 'The Search For Extraterrestrial Intelligence' (1989) and has been a keen SETI sky watcher for some thirty years. Unlike many writers from a scientific background, he does not snigger at or shy away from the subject of UFOs. It is respectable for SETI astronomers to use instrumentation to search for evidence of intelligent life the other side of the galaxy, he says, so why should it not be respectable to investigate reports in our immediate environment? Having taken a brief but to the point look at lights in the sky, explained and otherwise, he goes on to discuss the possibilities and probabilities of extraterrestrial life.

From his biologist background, he asks what form this would take, given an Earth type planet, but a few billion years, separate evolution? If E.T. ever arrived here could he survive? What would he eat? Speculation of course, but informed speculation. Not for Mr Ashpole the long blond haired space brothers from Venus selling New Age redemption!

With his scientist hat on he critically examines our present day propulsion methods and the limitations they place on interstellar exploration, and explores ideas of what extraterrestrials would have to do to overcome this problem if they were ever to decide to visit us. He also looks at UFO waves, photographic analysis and hoaxes, all in all, an informative and interesting book from a man who knows what he is talking about, but is not too exalted to let his sense of humour show through! My main complaint perhaps, is that as a serious researcher, I would like a little more referencing, so that when he tells me that so and so has said such and such, I can go straight to the book and page and see what else so and so has said. More casual readers may not find this a problem however. My only other comment is that at £18:99, I'm glad I was given it to review, and didn't have to buy it!

Reviewed by Marina Jones.

TITLE: ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST UNSOLVED MYSTERIES.

AUTHORS: JOHN AND ANNE SPENCER. PUBLISHER: HEADLINE PUBLISHING.

PRICE: £19:99. (Hbk)

To take on the job of writing a book with this type of title can cause all sorts of problems. Not only do you hope that the front cover is big

enough for the jacket designer to get the title on, but where do you start ? John and Anne Spencer have made an excellent job of solving the problem of sorting out the vast quantities of material on the subject by making use of the good old alphabet. Starting at aliens and ending up with zombies. There is everything in this book, angels, banshees, contactees, dolphin healing, (you wot, Ed), exorcism, men in black, phantom hitchhikers, spectral armies, telepathy, vampires, etc. I could fill the page with the subjects in this book, and ironically this, I suppose, is the book's only drawback. Although each subject contains a good deal of informative and well researched information, to go into each subject in great detail would involve the authors producing a book so massive, that the strongest of shelves would have problems supporting it. So the detail that some people are looking for in such a book is missing. But who cares, as an appetiser and a quick reference book, it is excellent, and I can vouch for this myself having used it as such.

It is also an excellent book for a starting off point, someone just beginning to have an interest in the subjects. It is a book you can leisurely browse through when you have a spare couple of minutes. Could it be the first coffee table paranormal book ? (nope, Editor). In my opinion, John and Anne Spencer have yet another great book here that would be a worthy addition to any library.

Reviewed by Billy Devlin.

TITLE: ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE UNEXPLAINED. AUTHORS: JENNY RANGLES AND PETER HOUGH. PUBLISHER: MICHAEL O' MARA BOOKS LTD. PRICE: £15:99 (Hbk).

Well again we have another book which adds to the growing list of strange and paranormal experiences. Some would say that these paranormal encyclopedia books are ten a penny, and who could argue ! But when we get right down to it, the pedigree of these authors, Randles and Hough speak for themselves. They are Britain's foremost paranormal/UFO Investigators, and if anyone should know what they are talking about, then they should.

So what do we have ? Well we have as you can guess, a multitude of weird and wonderful tales, from weeping statues to men in black, from Near Death Experiences, (Enter a la Susan I've got an answer for everything Blackmore), to the alien zoo. UFOs and strange falls from the sky can also be found. Yes we've read them all before, probably a thousand times, and yes we can recognise the photographs at first glance, but come on, the youngsters coming through who show the desire to get "into" this agenda, will love this book. For I too in my young days, (which were only last week) read these types of books. It reflected in me, the strange world in which we live, and assisted my progress and thirst for knowledge. So this book will ultimately do the same, and I would finish by saying, it is a work of printed art, and anyone who says different are not on the same planet.

Reviewed by Malcolm Robinson.

TITLE: STRANGE BUT TRUE CASEBOOK. AUTHOR: JENNY RANGLES.

PUBLISHER: PIATKUS BOOKS. PRICE: £10:99 (Hbk).

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This is the book from the popular T.V. series Strange But True ? of which essentially covers all the topics discussed from the show. We have tales of psychic healing, which in particular the healing by Charles Siddle on the horse Orion Blaze was quite staggering, (so that kills off the sceptics point of view who say healing is 'all in the mind'. Does the horse or any animal for that matter really know its getting healed ? Come on !) We then reach into strange tales of Time-Slips, Ghosts and Poltergeists, (which include the Enfield poltergeist) and of course UFOs, this all serves to provide a most fascinating read.

Shows like Strange But True ? are becoming more prolific on our T.V. screens. The Paranormal World Of Paul McKenna a recent addition to the ranks, has also proved to be a hit amongst UFO and Paranormal fans. But of course having the added bonus of 'books of the series' is also a good idea. So all in all another good book from Jenny Randles, that's the rent paid for another week.

Reviewed by Malcolm Robinson.

TITLE: ALIENS, THE FINAL ANSWER ? AUTHOR: DAVID BARCLAY.

PUBLISHER: BLANDFORD BOOKS. PRICE: £9:99 (Pbk).

If there's one thing that UFOlogy is not short on, then that's theories. We have plenty, probably more theories than UFOs I would say. And guess what ? along comes this new book with another one. It's controversial, its weird and wacky, but the author is convinced of his arguments. So what is this new and fantastic theory ? Well its heavy and this small review will not do it any justice, but I think what David is saying, is that firstly we are not descended from the Apes, mankind is older than is currently recognised, (ie, the find at Glen Rose Texas of a 16 inch hominid footprint next to dinosaur tracks in the same strata, would indicate that man was around at the same time as good old T.Rex.

On page 101 we learn that if UFO occupants can breathe our atmosphere, tolerate our gravity, then it follows that they are not from 'elsewhere' but right here on Earth, and therefore it seems likely that something other than Interplanetary Invasion is going on ! David discusses UFO incidents from the Bible then hits us with this amazing statement, "It is just about possible to suppose that baby Jesus was some kind of clone. However in view of what Bud Hopkin's investigations have unearthed in present day America, it becomes more reasonable to assume that the donor was an "intelligent dinosaur lookalike". This would also explain Jesus's psychic powers, because it is probable that seemingly paranormal powers come naturally to the 'greys', whom I suspect of being somehow genetically related to ourselves". (Cor blimey !)

David believes that we are not facing an imminent invasion by superior beings, no, he thinks that its an attempt by a superior life form to "Reclaim" the planet and establish itself as the dominant species (p 167). David also believes that Hitler was a contactee, (I've always said that there was something funny about that guy). David continues, "Charles Hoy Fort was correct when he said that 'we are property' " So in summing up I think he is saying that we, ie humankind, are the result of inter-breeding with intelligent dinosaurs, helped along with genetic engineering.

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The splicing of genes into various animals was also conducted. If I've picked up his argument wrong, then I apologise. It's a thought provoking book and one that will be discussed for years to come.

Reviewed by Malcolm Robinson.

HOW TO ORDER THESE BOOKS.

TITLE: The UFO Phenomena. **AUTHOR:** Edward Ashpole. **PUBLISHER:** Headline Publishing. **PRICE:** £18:99 (Hbk). **AVAILABLE FROM:** Hodder Headline PLC 338 Euston Road London England, NW1 3BH. **TITLE:** Encyclopedia Of The Worlds Greatest Unsolved Mysteries. **AUTHORS:** John and Anne Spencer. **PUBLISHER:** Headline Publishing. **AVAILABLE FROM:** (Same address as above). **TITLE:** Encyclopedia Of The Unexplained. **AUTHORS:** Jenny Randles and Peter Hough. **PUBLISHER:** Michael O' Mara Books Ltd. **AVAILABLE FROM:** Michael O' Mara Books Ltd, 9 Lion Yard, Tremadoc Road, London, England, SW4 7NQ. **TITLE:** Strange But True ? Case-book. **AUTHOR:** Jenny Randles. **PUBLISHER:** Piatkus Books. **PRICE:** £10:99 (Hbk) **AVAILABLE FROM:** Piatkus Books Ltd, 5 Windmill Street, London, England, W1P 1HF. **TITLE:** Aliens, The Final Answer. **AUTHOR:** David Barclay. **PUBLISHER:** Blandford Books. **PRICE:** £9:99 (Pbk) **AVAILABLE FROM:** Blandford Books, Cassell plc, Villiers House, 41-47 Strand, London, England, WC2N 5JE.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ENIGMAS



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ENIGMAS

DEAR EDITOR.

Lothian Unexplained Phenomena Research was formed due to the fact that there were numerous sightings in and around the Bathgate area of West Lothian Scotland, and there were no local researchers available to investigate these sightings. I have always believed that the innocent witness to an unexplained paranormal or aerial phenomena event, is usually left totally confused and bewildered. Having a background in counselling, I felt this was a great anomaly, and in that respect L.U.P.R. will strive to be people centered. The most important part of any investigation must always be the well being of the witness.

It is my belief that when the public learns that researchers can be trusted, then they may come forward with their accounts, of which I am convinced there are many. It is up to each and every researcher in this field to strive towards that aim. Lothian Unexplained Phenomena Research can be contacted on 01506 635 184. All calls are treated in the strictest of confidence.

DAVID COLMAN, BATHGATE, SCOTLAND.

[As I mentioned in my Editorial, Scottish UFOlogy is growing, and to this end I would ask that you support David's group. Give him a call].

DEAR EDITOR.

I am a soldier who has served with the Royal Artillery for 6 years and would like to think I'm of sound mind. In September of 1993, I was in the Outer Hebrides on the Isle of Benbecula for what is called a firing camp, this entails the firing of live missiles over the Atlantic. The actual firing takes place on the Island of South Uist off the west coast. During this event I was asked to provide the point guard for the night which gives me the responsibility of supervising 4 men during the night whose soul job is to protect the equipment present at the time.

The night in question was excellent weather conditions, and therefore providing extremely good vision over the Atlantic. Between 2000hrs and 2200hrs, I, along with other members of the guard, witnessed what we first thought was a distress flare of a ship/boat at sea. After observing for several minutes, we realised that it couldn't be a flare, as it changed colour from red to green to an array of colours. Apart from this, the object moved with speed that I have not seen before, and I hope you can realise that I work in Air Defence so work along side some of the fastest aircraft in the world.

Even though this object moved with this great speed, it also had amazing agility, in which it seemed to move in a figure 8 lying on its side.

I give my apologies that I cannot remember the other soldiers present. At the time we did not report this as we did not want to become the center of ridicule and jokes.

Lbdr Donald EJ. (Address on File)

[SPI have contacted this gentlemen and as yet we have not heard back from him. Should the position change, then we shall of course let you know].

DEAR EDITOR:

You recently sent me some literature in response to my advert in the Fortean Times. I am researching peoples experiences of ghosts. I have heard from a good many people and visited many in their homes. I would like to join SPI. I was also wondering if you have had anyone writing to you recently with any ghost stories, as I still need many more to complete my book.

NATALIE THOMASON, 5 WEST END,
BUGBROKE, NORTHAMPTON, ENGLAND, NN7
3PI. U.K.

[Well readers, have you got any ghostly experiences that you would like to get off your chest? If so, then write to Natalie at the above address].

DEAR EDITOR.

ENCOUNTERS MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION OFFER.

We recognise the value of new readers such as members of your club, and would therefore like to offer you a very special rate for any one of your members taking out a year's subscription to our magazine. The reason that we are able to do this is that we can often gain information from dedicated readers from all 4 corners of the globe. We may write to each subscriber from time to time requesting Club details, swapping information, and generally

'keeping in contact'. The offer? U.K. (Special Offer) £19:99 for 12 issues, [normally £27:00]. Europe (Special Offer) £29:99 for 12 issues, [normally £35:00]. Rest of the World, (Special Offer) £39:99 for 12 issues [normally £44:00]. I look forward to hearing from your members.

MICHAEL ROBINSON, MARKETING MANAGER.
ENCOUNTERS MAGAZINE.

[Well readers, if you would like to take Michael up on this wonderful offer, write to SPI where I'll give you the appropriate form. Please enclose S.A.E.]

DEAR EDITOR.

British Aerospace has released details that it is working on a project to develop technology for a future STEALTH fighter aircraft at its Warton facilities in Lancashire England. The HALO (High Altitude Low Observable) project is initially planned to lead to a technology demonstrator, which could be flying by 2005, production aircraft for the R.A.F. could possibly enter service by 2013.

British Aerospace stealth project



A large stealthy flying wing design is one option currently being evaluated, and it is intended to be a joint venture if it goes ahead, as Britain would not have the finance or resources to go it alone.

The above statement was published in the January 1996 issue of AFM.

Through reliable sources it has been established that such a craft already exists and is being evaluated in the

small hours of the night on missions involving Boscombe Down and Machrihanish for flight evaluation. Sources confirm that flights between Boscombe Down and Machrihanish are taking place at around 01:00hrs. As you will see from the enclosed illustration, its shape configuration, could give rise to a large number of UFO sightings.

IAN R. GOULD, CORFE, TAUNTON, SOM-
ERSET, ENGLAND.

[Well Ian you don't state your reliable sources, but nonetheless, the information you provide will I'm sure prove of interest to some of our members. Indeed, some of our members are already spoken of their interest of Machrihanish, say no more !!].

DEAR EDITOR.

The latest news on the Santilli film is that it is a fake, but based on the real life experiences of several witnesses who saw the genuine autopsy first time round. This would make sense and feels possibly right, where the actual corpse and the dissection as supposedly genuine seem more suspect, the body doesn't fit other E.T. witnesses descriptions, either at Roswell or elsewhere with regard to Grey make up or indeed any other alien descriptions on record as far as I am aware.



Likewise, the autopsy seemed simplistic, just a straight cutting open and pulling out of what was found inside. I'm sure anyone with any knowledge of elementary autopsy techniques carried out by the military or indeed civilian authorities in 40's America, would quickly be able to spot how realistic things were.

There is a medical condition known as Exomphalus where a baby is born with its internal organs outside its body, it takes several operations to get them back into the body cavity, as the body has to adjust to their new position, plus wind gets pushed into the body during the operation, leaving it bloated. In the corpse in question, this bloating is clearly seen. The eyelid make-up does seem to show knowledge of possibly a real alien, or at least a lot of trouble having been gone to, to convince the films viewers that the footage is genuine.

The description of the whimpering aliens all huddled in a group clutching at parts of their craft, seems out of place, as I have yet to hear of this kind of emotional display from any other reports on ET contact. Likewise the bashing of the 'freaks' sounds more like something out of a 'B' movie than a genuine reaction, shooting them out of fear if no officers were around, or panicking if they were armed and looked like they were going to defend themselves; that I could more readily believe, but physical contact with something totally alien seems a bit suspect to me.

All this said, I do not rule out the possibility that the film is genuine only that it arouses my suspicions, only the people who produced this footage know if its real, and of course the people who were originally at Roswell.

TONY SANDY, CROMARTY, SCOTLAND.

[Well I've said all I've got to say on the Roswell film, and I ain't saying no more !]

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NOTHING SURPRISES ME ANYMORE !

Working in the field of UFOs and the paranormal, we researchers always find ourselves at the attention of the press. Every researcher in the U.K. has at one time worked with the press, (if they have served their apprenticeship and been in the field for a few years). Then of course there's the radio and T.V. all this is to be expected as it is a public interest subject. I've had my share of the press, as has Jenny Randles, Peter Hough, Philip Mantle, etc etc. We aim to inform the general public that there is indeed "strange things about", (in amongst all the identifiable stuff !) Anyway, what I'm saying is, strange as it may seem, the press still never fail to astound me. Let me explain.

I am fairly used to being contacted by the press near enough on a daily basis. They ask, "what's new Mr Robinson, any good cases on the go" ? Now whilst we researchers must keep in the public eye in as much as to inform them on what's going on, I hereby admit that SPI have of late, been a wee bit guilty of letting our guard slip and perhaps saying too much to the press before an actual case was completed. This has now been addressed, and no longer will SPI discuss 'any' case research work with the press until it is completed, and only then with the permission of the witness. Keeping UFO and paranormal cases locked in our own files will do the education of the public no good whatsoever.

Anyway, the Scottish Sun Newspaper (well some would say it is !) and proceeded to ask me if I had seen the previous day's issue, (I hadn't) he went on to say that our beloved Scottish National Football squad were being put up for the European Championship of 1996 at Ettington Park, a hotel in the English County of Warwickshire. However, this was no ordinary hotel, no sir-ee. This hotel was also home to 8 ghosts. ! Apparently guests at Ettington Park have reported flying books, peeling wallpaper (they ought to see my toilet !) and even a phantom shoeshiner. It is also haunted by two young children who drowned in the nearby River Stour. No building would be complete without a coloured lady, and this one is grey, a former mistress of the house who apparently still patrols the corridors hundreds of years after she was pushed to her death down a flight of stairs.

This reporter then asked me if SPI could help. I said, "well if required then yes"; and I went on to say about the spirit rescue work that SPI undertake. After some more quotes from me, [Remember, they telephoned me

not the other way around] the conversation ended and I went about my business. The following day, I was absolutely staggered to see, a huge photograph of me on the back page (Sports Page) of the Scottish Sun with the headline, "Something Strange In The Team Hotel, Who Ya Gonna Call, Ghostbuster". I couldn't believe it. I honestly thought that it would just be a small paragraph tucked away in a corner, but this was too much, never in my wildest dreams did I ever think that I would be featured on the 'back' page of a National Newspaper. Now I know that nothing will ever surprise me. And what did I say to the Sun ? Well I said this.

"I'm actually surprised that the S.F.A. are using the hotel, as staying in a haunted Hotel isn't the best preparation for such an important competition. The players may insist that they don't believe in ghosts, but we all have degrees of psychic sensitivity. Some people are more finely tuned than others, and if during the course of the night, Colin Hendry or Jim Leighton wake up and see something at the bottom of their bed, it'll give them a fright. It may not affect their playing performance, but it will certainly give them a jolt. SPI would research the history of the hotel and speak with those who have had sightings. They're probably 'Earthbound' spirits who can't accept death or are trapped here. We'd bring in psychics to persuade them that it's futile to stay on. Unfortunately, we couldn't transfer the spirits to wherever Terry Venables squad will be".

So there we are, working with the press sure has a load of surprises. By the way, for our overseas readers, Terry Venables is the manager of the English National Football Squad of which 'our boys' will give them a good pasting come the summer of 96 !

LIVINGSTON SCENE OF CINE !

I was rummaging through the loft the other day (as you do !) when I came across, no not Vincent Price, but a box of old cine film. I was a keen cine enthusiast back in the late 1970's, (well it kept me out the house didn't it !) and I regularly took film of anything that moved, (this did not include the Hibs forward line, for they never moved) anyway I'm digressing. Looking through this box of magic moments, I came across a packet of film entitled, "Livingston UFO 1979". I carefully took the film out of its packet, unwound the spool, and held it up to the light, and there it was, the scene of the Livingston UFO landing of 1979, 'one day on'. I had completely forgot about that film, I haven't got a cine projector to play it on now but my aim is to transfer in onto video.

I remember that day well, my friend Sandy Craw and I travelled up to Livingston and then on to Dechmont Woods where the actual Incident occurred. We filmed the marks on the ground and interviewed witness Bob Taylor. I also remember meeting Andrew Collins at the site, that intrepid psychic questing chap who has written so many wonderful books about 'questing'. Looking at these grounds marks, well we knew we were looking at something special, just as I'm sure Neil Armstrong felt as he looked down at his boot prints in the soft powdery moon dust. Oh dear I'm romanticising now enough Robinson. As I say, I aim to get this cine film onto video, and when I do I'll let you know.

Of course we do have photographs of the marks in the grass, but I don't think anyone ever took cine film. Video cameras at that point (1979), although around, were not commercially available, any that were, were indeed 'pricey' to say the least. More on this film later. [Editor]



SPI MEETINGS.

I am pleased to announce the dates for all SPI Internal members meetings. These meetings are all being held in the Caper Ceilidh pub which is situated in Cowane Street Stirling, (Across from the Cowane Centre where previous SPI meetings have been held). The address of the Caper Ceilidh is, 52 Cowane Street Stirling, Tel 01786 450375. All meetings start at 7:30pm and go on until around 10:30pm. These meetings will comprise of SPI General Business, then onto discussion of cases which in turn will lead to general debate about UFOs and the paranormal. Have you got views to air on these subjects? Well please come along and have your say. Please note, that these are SPI meetings and not SPI Guest speaker evenings. Notice of SPI guest speaker evenings will be posted to members once we have selected dates, times, and venues. For any queries please phone SPI on 01259 7240 33. A small charge of 50 pence will be required from all those attending to cover the hire of the room. O.K. The dates of the SPI Meetings are;

Wednesday 17th January.	* Wednesday 8th May.	* Wednesday 25th September.
Wednesday 14th February,	* Wednesday 5th June.	* Wednesday 23rd October.
Wednesday 13th March.	* Wednesday 3rd July.	* Wednesday 20th November.
Wednesday 10th April.	* Wednesday 28th August.	* Monday 9th December.

SKYWATCHING, A GUIDE.

I have the great pleasure in announcing that SPI have a new skywatching Co-ordinator, and someone I feel who will do a grand job for us. His name is Iain Connon, and Iain lives in the town of Falkirk which is near Bonnybridge. Iain has already presented SPI with selected skywatching dates, but he has this to say about Skywatching.....



"Skywatching is a very important piece in the jigsaw that is UFOlogy. Many sightings of UFOs have been the result of organised skywatches, and the more we gaze skyward, the more chance we have of seeing that elusive unexplainable. SPI's policy on skywatching is to encourage its members to organise and attend as many skywatches as possible. SPI arranges and publishes dates of official skywatches, but because of quirks of the Scottish weather, it is often a last minute get together. Skywatches also have to be arranged in liaison with the media to accommodate filming and interviews.

It is advisable to take warm clothing and a flask of hot tea and soup, as even the warmest of evenings can turn cool very quickly. Other items which can be of use, are cameras, camcorders and binoculars, or a telescope for recording any unusual sightings, also a flash-light can be used to initiate a response. The only other virtue required is a very large supply of patience" [Iain Connon]. O.K. readers, the dates for the SPI skywatches are as follows.

Friday 26th January.	* Thursday 9th May.	* Thursday 5th September.
Sunday 18th February.	* Friday 7th June.	* Wednesday 16th October.
Wednesday 20th March.	* Sunday 7th July.	* Monday 11th November.
Tuesday 9th April.	* Wednesday 7th August.	* Tuesday 10th December.

(Extra Skywatching dates)... Wednesday 24th April. Thursday 23rd May. Monday 24th June. Tuesday 23rd July. Wednesday 21st August. Friday 20th September. These are provisional dates. One date for months when bad weather can reasonably be expected, which gives us a bit more flexibility, and two dates for months when good weather will hopefully prevail. Skywatches may be organised at short notice, during spells of good weather, and every effort will be made to inform members, (no one has an excuse now that we have the dates printed in ENIGMAS, Ed). Information regarding venues will be available in the 2 weeks prior to each skywatch. [Iain Connon].

For more information about these skywatches, contact Iain Connon on, 01324 613806.

Strange and Unknown



[Editor's Preface]. Here at ENIGMAS, we like to feature as many "Strange But True" stories as we can, and I'm pleased to say that right now we have many on our books. The sad thing for me as an Editor, is which ones do I use first! Believe you me, it's no easy task, but one thing for sure, it's better having loads to publish than hardly anything at all. So look forward to more tantalising tales of the paranormal in future issues of ENIGMAS. This issue's tale, concerns an incident brought to my attention by a lady (now aged 50) at the Quest/SPI UFO Conference in the Falkirk Town Hall. It's an incident which has deeply puzzled her over the years, and she was so very glad to get it off her chest and talk to someone who is involved with this type of event. I have to protect her identity for obvious reasons, but the place names are real and remain the same. See what you make of this].

OBSERVATION OF ENTITIES AT WESTBOURNE GARDENS, GLASGOW, SCOTLAND, (CIRCA 1955).

"The ground where I saw these beings is, and was then, vacant and unused. It had a long time before been part of the property of Bellhaven Terrace who own the lock-ups. It contains young trees, shrubs, undergrowth but is not dense. Where "they" were, is flattish level. We children had been cooking potatoes on a small fire about mid-evening in summer. I was about 8 years old my sister was 6. There were about 3 to 5 other (older) children with us. I became aware of the "beings". I was looking towards them, so we all including my sister and I, left the area of the fire from where at that time you couldn't see down into the adjacent ground. Why we did, I have no recollection.

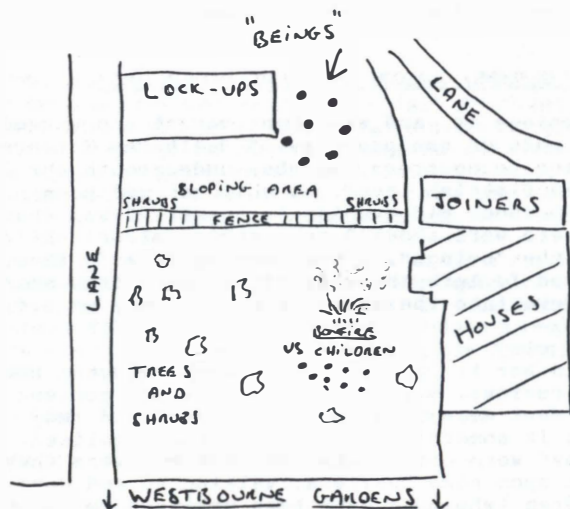
My sister was frightened, I told her to run up to our parents in the house but I continued to look, I was curious, were they nuns from the convent doing something very unusual? What were they up to? And why did they look different from usual? Was it something secret? I then realised that they were 'not' nuns, "they" were not female, but neither were they male. "They" were deeply intent upon some business, walking up and down paying no attention to us children (who must have been making some noise). There were between 2 and 3 at first, then quite a few more appeared behind them. They were pre-occupied with the ground. They floated smoothly

rather than walked, and they were all similar, tallish thin, very pale skinned, with long floating white plain garments with white caps, deep, deep penetrating large eyes, pointed faces, black beneath the hats (hair of whatever), but black close to the top of the head. Then all at once one turned towards me and moved up the slope in my direction, looking not so much at me, but 'through me' most intensely. They were simply 'not human'. The others made to also come towards "our" garden and I turned and ran away.

The whole group seemed slightly annoyed to be disturbed while occupied with something important. They 'saw' us/me, but 'their' looking was not like our use of the eyes. ! I still can't tell if there was a strong white light coming from a 'craft' or 'machine' further behind them. Sometimes I think I recall that but I am not sure. There was an urgency, an intensity and single mindedness about them. I have asked my mother if she remembers anything about this event, (I didn't tell her why or what I do remember of it so that she would simply tell me what I had reported to her that night). She remembers my sister running in very scared as she'd seen something terrifying. My mother thought we had seen ghosts or spirits, as her family believes in the supernatural.

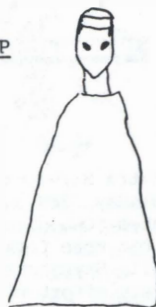
I will be writing to my sister in Australia to try and find out her recollection, if there is a way to contact any of the other children present I'll do it. I've tried to recall the event before sleeping to see if it will float into my dreams, but I can't tell you anything has happened. If I can get any more on this I'll write. It's so good to look at this happening with support. I must say that this place, (Westbourne Gardens area) has a weird atmosphere, one which my son quite independantly has commented on.

EMMA ROBERTS, (pseudonym), GLASGOW, JANUARY 1996.



WHITE CAP

WHITE
GARMENT.



WHAT "THEY"
LOOKED LIKE.

[EDITOR'S NOTE].

Well quite an interesting event there and one of which the witness has still not forgotten even although it occurred 40 odd years ago. Who were these "beings"? What were they doing there? Well I guess we'll never really know. This puzzling case, just adds to the growing list of world-wide weird happenings. We can but sit and document these cases, whereby hoping that someone, somewhere may also have had a similar event happen to them.

Strange days indeed !

WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT?

by Ted Baker



(Editor's Preface. The strange world of the paranormal never ceases to amaze me, and the following article taken from the Noah's Ark Society Newsletter, certainly proves this statement true. The article also gives new meaning to actor Bob Hoskins T.V. advert statement that, "It's Good To Talk" !.)

Jennifer was a child born with spinal bifida, her spine was severed in two places. She was brought to us as a baby for healing after being told she would never walk. My wife and I used to treat her every week regularly, and as she made progress she was referred to by the doctors as 'their miracle child'. We formed quite an attachment, I was her 'uncle Ted' and I loved her.

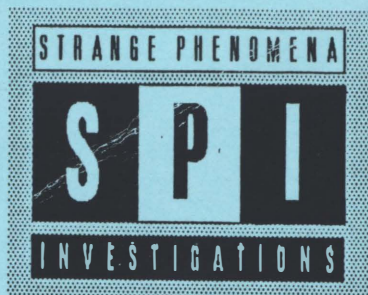
She must have been about three years old at the time. One afternoon, prior to a healing session, the phone rang. My son picked up the phone to answer it and he turned to me and said, "I think it's Jennifer, she wants to speak to you", and he handed me the phone. I took the phone and said, "Hello", whereupon a baby's voice said, "Hello Uncle Ted". I recognised the voice as Jennifer's. She chatted away with baby talk, to which I responded, as Uncle Ted would. After a few moments she said, "I'm going now, bye", and rang off. My wife asked who it was on the phone, and I said it was only Jennifer wanting to speak to Uncle Ted. We thought no more about it until about 20 minutes later. A Mrs Ella Wilcox, who was Jennifer's aunt and also a member of our healing group, came through the door.

I mentioned to Ella that I was speaking to Jenny about half an hour ago on the phone. Ella looked straight at me and said, "Our Ruth hasn't got a phone" (Ruth being Jennifer's mother). "Well", I said, "Jenny spoke to me just now, ask Mike, as he took the call first". Of course Mike confirmed it, "it was definitely Jennifer" he said. Ella repeated, "Our Ruth hasn't got a phone". She thought for a moment or two. "That's very strange, I was at Jennifer's house just before I came here. Someone had bought Jenny a toy phone, a plastic one, she was playing with it when I went in, and I asked her what she was doing, and she replied, "I'm going to phone Uncle Ted" and proceeded to do so with the toy phone. That was just about the time when our phone rang. Mike answered it and passed it onto me, and Uncle Ted spoke to Jennifer. !

(Editor's Note. Now if that ain't weird then I don't know what is)

(See magazine review on how to obtain the Noah's Ark Society Newsletter)

news desk



POSTAL STRIKE. As many of you will know, Scotland suffered from a major postal strike in early December which was a real pain I can tell you. It held up the distribution of the Nov-Dec issue of ENIGMAS. Once the strike was over, the post office had (it was stated) a quarter of a million letters to sort out. If you had any problems in receiving, or not receiving as the case may be, your copy of ENIGMAS, then do let me know. **CONFERENCE DOPE !** From the Scottish Daily Record Newspaper of 7/11/95 I take the following. "Student Neil Dooley was fined £50:00 at Falkirk Sheriff Court yesterday for possessing Cannabis at a conference on aliens. He went there because he was fascinated by the sightings reported at Bonnybridge, Stirlingshire". The conference in question readers was the Cosmic Agenda Lecture in October 1995 (see review last issue). Is this the first time in the world that someone has been 'done' for drugs at a UFO Conference Answers on a post card please.

APOLOGIES ! My humble apologies go to Mark Fraser who's ghostly Scotland articles I hadn't space for in this issue, the same also applies to Susan Mantle in regards to a UFO Investigation, Hazel Graham (pseudonym) on her UFO experiences near Farnborough, and finally to, Oops sorry chaps spare the whip CE IV, my good friends from Glasgow of whom I recently interviewed, all these items and more "Will" be featured in upcoming issues of ENIGMAS, of that you can be certain. **SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE.** If an X appears in the following box, this means that your subscription has run out with this issue. Please re-subscribe and support Scottish UFO & Paranormal resea-

rch. ☒ **SPI ON T.V.** Look out for SPI on a BBC 2 programme coming out in the spring, and, would you believe, I can't even remember the name of the show. We were filmed doing a skywatch on top of Edinburgh's Carlton Hill, and believe me, what a spectacular view you get of Edinburgh from there. **MORONS OFFER.** I have five signed copies of John D. Inman's recent book entitled, "The Morons Guide To The Paranormal" which is a humorous look at all things weird and wonderful. Example, "Fire Walkers" Rather stupid people who do not have the economy to go bungee jumping. Thankfully this is one sport you can do in your own living room by viciously stubbing fags out on your feet and pretending you feel no pain. So readers, all you have to do to win your copy, is to answer the following question. 'What was the name of the referee's brother at the Celtic V Rangers match in April 1956 ? No, only kidding readers, which Loch in Scotland holds a famous "monster" ? The first five correct answers drawn from my trusty Hibs hat will win a copy. Send your answers on a post card please, to the Editorial address marked, 'Morons Offer'. **KARLA TURNER.** It is with sadness that I have to inform the readers of ENIGMAS of the death, due to cancer, in January this year, of one of America's leading UFO researchers, Dr Karla Turner. Karla was widely respected in the UFO community and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts go out to her family. **IN CLOSING.** Well that wraps up another ENIGMAS, so much to put in and so little pages to do it with, Remember, UFOlogy and Paranormal events are for the people and not for filing cabinets ! [M.R.]